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Near East & South Asia

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REGIONAL

Reasons Given for Middle Eastern Missile Race

45040010 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic
3 Sep 88 p 3

[Article by Muhammad 'Umar]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted defining ballistic missile systems and discussing how Israel first introduced them into the Middle East in the early 1960's as a deterrent weapon against the surrounding Arab countries, and how their use subsequently spread to other countries.]

The increasing number of struggles, conflicts, and disputes between countries is not the only reason for the growing use of surface-to-surface missile systems; other factors have contributed to the spread of this phenomenon. For instance, some Third World countries have acquired the technology to develop and produce missiles, and some of the missile-producing countries are inclined to sell them for material gain, regardless of political considerations. Furthermore, some of the countries in the region have been unable to acquire an effective air force, which has led them to seek an alternative, which in this case is this sort of missile system.

Increased Tension!

Until a short time ago, the acquisition of such systems was limited to types which were not very technologically advanced and which had a modest range, which limited their threat and danger to a single regional conflict. But now, the course of events testifies that to an increasing extent, more advanced, dangerous, and effective missiles with longer ranges are being acquired, thus increasing tension and sensitivity throughout the region. Furthermore, all the parties are racing to acquire more and better missiles, from their point of view, in an attempt to acquire a deterrent capability or at least maintain the balance of power.

Even though it was Israel which introduced missiles into the Middle East, that country feels that acquisition of such missiles by the region's countries poses a direct threat to its national security and upsets the regional balance of power! Meanwhile, the Arab countries in general regard these missiles as an influential factor in achieving a strategic balance with Israel and Iran, and as a way to make up for the obvious shortcomings in the capabilities of their air forces.

Egypt's Position

Confronting the proliferation of these missiles requires extensive diplomatic, media, and military efforts and activity. Egypt's position is based on the need to try to solve the chronic regional conflicts in the region, especially the Arab-Israeli conflict and the struggle between Iraq and Iran, as the first fundamental step towards

limiting the proliferation of these missiles. Furthermore, every country in the region must sign the treaty for non-proliferation of unconventional weapons.

There is no doubt that the Arab-Israeli conflict is the chief reason for and factor behind the proliferation and acquisition of ballistic (surface-to-surface) missiles. The region's countries are interested in these missiles because they are efficient weapons systems which can be launched from their bases against targets far beyond the immediate or indirect ranges of conventional weapons, without bringing in the human element except for the initial calculations based on ballistics, which is the science which studies the factors which influence the missile while it is in the air, such as gravitational pull and atmospheric conditions. There are many other factors which have contributed to the proliferation of missiles in the region, the most important being the increasing violence of regional conflicts and threats and the inability of any party to the conflict to resolve the situation through diplomatic means. This makes each side want to get weapons to deter and exhaust the opposing force.

Some Third World countries, such as Brazil, Argentina, Korea, and China, have the technology to develop and produce such missiles, and are selling them for huge financial profit, regardless of political relations and affiliations. In addition to this, there are no restrictions on the marketing process, or on the use or resale of missiles. Furthermore, some of the countries in the region, such as Israel, Iraq, and Syria, have engaged in missile research, development and production, and the modification of parts.

Similarly, the restrictions placed by the superpowers on the sale of modern aircraft to the region's countries, and these countries' shortage, so far, of the human resources needed to establish advanced air forces and the technical and technological resources needed to build an advanced aircraft industry, have all meant that most of the region's countries are unable to acquire an effective air force to counter surrounding threats. This has made them want to acquire these missile systems.

The Dangers of This Struggle

Because the ability to obtain these missiles has become a pressing matter for most of the countries of the region, the struggle among them to obtain more of these modern, advanced missile systems is increasing. This struggle threatens the region's security and safety with many political, military, and economic dangers.

On the political level, there are more opportunities for the presence of foreigners in the region, whether as advisors or technicians. This has a negative effect on any political action to stop military confrontation between two countries. Because of this foreign presence, diplomacy does not have enough time to play its part. Also, tension among the countries of the region is heightened, because some of those countries try to dominate their

neighbors and aspire to impose their own leadership goals. Opportunities are also created for foreigners to step in to stop the proliferation of these missiles and their use to further state policies.

On the military level, some countries are encouraged to attack neighboring states and threaten their vital interests and goals. The principle of making preemptive strikes against an anticipated attack, out of fear that there won't be enough warning, becomes more widespread. There is the possibility that the missiles might be equipped with chemical warheads, especially by several countries in the region which have the capability to produce chemical weapons. In addition, there is also the danger that they might be equipped with nuclear capabilities.

In the economic context, the race to acquire advanced missile systems, either through research, development and production, or direct purchase, and the use of missiles against economic and industrial targets, leads to overburdening and exhausting the economies of the region's countries.

[Passage omitted providing statistics on missile capabilities of various Middle Eastern countries over the past twenty years.]

PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS

UNRWA Tabulates Refugee Explosion in Gaza 44000053 Jerusalem AL-BAYADIR AL-SIYASI (English Supplement) in Arabic 9 Sep 88 pp 6-7

[Text] The problem of Palestinian refugees emerged after the 1948 War, when about 940,000 Palestinians were

displaced from their homes and lands. Most sought refuge in neighboring Arab countries. Nearly 200,000 fled to the Gaza Strip, then home to only 90,000 Palestinians. This led to a deterioration in the economic condition of the area. The Egyptian government, which controlled the Gaza Strip, was unable to provide sufficient aid and services to the bursting population.

In 1950, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency [UNRWA] for Palestinian refugees launched a campaign to provide basic necessities including food, health care and education for the refugees. Most of the exiled Palestinians taking refugee in the Gaza Strip were concentrated into eight camps established by UNRWA. To this day, the camps reflect the extent to which the Palestinian tragedy has been felt by the refugees economically, psychologically and socially.

In 1960, the number of refugees in camps in the Gaza Strip numbered 154,837. Some 103,314 lived outside the camps. In 1967, there were 207,313 in the camps. By 1973, this figure had dropped to 194,759, a decrease attributed to measures taken by the Israeli authorities. For example, between July 20 and August 20, 1971, the Israeli authorities demolished 2,009 homes belonging to 12,000 Palestinian refugees in Jabalya, Shati', and Rafah Refugee Camps. In 1982, there were 208,662 in the camps and 168,630 outside.

By 1985 the number inside the camp stood at 236,486 and two years later, in 1987, at 244,416. In late March of this year, the figure was estimated at 249,696.

Distribution of Refugees in Camps

Camp	1960	1967	1973	1982	1985	1987	1988
Jabalya	27,661	41,943	39,895	44,946	51,225	52,405	53,856
al-Shati'	23,908	33,726	34,534	34,971	40,359	41,280	42,108
Nusayrat	17,822	20,154	20,114	22,927	26,400	28,199	29,053
al-Burayj	11,784	15,012	12,501	14,065	16,057	16,752	17,212
Dayr al-Balah	6,229	7,836	7,878	8,949	9,854	10,175	10,344
Shaykh al-Maghazi	8,237	9,992	8,499	9,338	10,506	10,916	11,159
Khan Yunus	21,159	30,074	29,102	29,726	33,269	34,856	35,377
Rafah	38,045	48,576	42,236	43,740	48,816	49,833	50,587
Total	154,837	207,313	149,759	208,662	236,486	244,416	249,646

The table shows that more than 70 percent of the refugees living in the camps are in Rafah, Jabalya, al-Shati' and Khan Yunus Camps. The residents of Jabalya constitute 21.5 percent of the total refugee population in Gaza Strip camps, while Rafah accounts for 20.2 percent and Shati' 16.8 percent.

UNRWA is responsible for education and health care in the Gaza Strip. In the 1987-88 academic year, there were 146 schools all over the area. The number of students was 88,821 who were taught by 2,396 teachers. In each camp there is a medical clinic. In Gaza City there are two medical clinics.

The number of employees in the health system are 760 distributed as follows: 334 in the medical section, 145 in the nutrition department, and 281 in the environment

supervision section. Despite all these facilities, health conditions in the Gaza Strip are steadily deteriorating.

Distribution of UNRWA Schools in Gaza Strip

Location	Elementary	Preparatory	Total
Gaza	26	11	37
Rafah	19	7	27
Khan Yunus	12	4	16
Deyr al-Balah	6	2	8
Jabalya	13	5	18
Bayt Hanun	3	2	5
Bani Suhayl	2	2	4
Khaza'ah	2	—	2
'Abbasan	1	—	1
Ma'an	2	—	2
Qararah	1	—	1
Shaykh al-Maghazi	4	2	6
Nusayrat	9	3	12
Baraj	6	2	8
Total	106	40	140

Abu-Nidal's Official Spokesman Interviewed
45040022 Tunis AL-ANWAR AL-TUNISIYAH in Arabic 25 Sep-1 Oct 88 p 12

[Interview with 'Atif Abu-Bakr, Abu-Nidal's official spokesman, by Ra'uf al-Muqaddami; "Atif Abu-Bakr to AL-ANWAR: This Is How We Killed al-Sartawi; We Will Soon Strike Within U.S. Territories"; excerpt from a series; date and place not given]

[Text] We publish this week the second part of the lengthy interview conducted by colleague Ra'uf al-Muqaddami with 'Atif Abu-Bakr, Abu-Nidal's official spokesman. In this part, 'Atif talks about the disagreement with the PLO, about the secession from Fatah, the mother movement, and about how the Mosad forced Abu-Nidal to continue the struggle outside Palestine.

[Question] Sultan Abu-al-'Aynayn, the commander of Abu-'Ammar's forces in Beirut, has said to me: "If you encounter Abu-Nidal or 'Atif, then ask them why they didn't assassinate Peres on the day they assassinated 'Isam al-Sartawi, even though Peres was present at the same hotel and the same hall in which al-Sartawi was killed?"

[Answer] If you see Sultan again, tell him that you have the answer. Tell him that the youth we sent to kill 'Isam al-Sartawi was no more than 20 years old and had never seen al-Sartawi before. The youth stayed at the same hotel with al-Sartawi. But he recognized al-Sartawi only from his photograph. This youth was not aware that Peres was with al-Sartawi. Otherwise he would have assassinated both. The proof that we don't want to kill anybody just for the sake of killing is that al-Sartawi's

killer called al-Sartawi and said to him: "O, 'Isam, we have warned you 10 times. Why didn't you come to your senses and spare us the evil of killing! After the operation, I asked this same youth if he felt anything upon realizing that Peres was also present. He answered in distress: "I felt utterly regretful. I could have impaled the head of the serpent. But I didn't know that he was present."

We went on to talk about terrorism.

[Atif] We believe that the liberation struggle of any people confronted with occupation, with settlement, or with oppression by one party or by several parties is entitled to all forms of violence in every sense of the word, excluding terrorism. Terrorism is the direct antithesis of revolutionary violence as we understand it. I have previously said that the media have saddled us with numerous accusations. We are not about to devote our time to refuting these charges, either in part or in parcel, because they give terrorism a meaning compatible with these media's interests. Some of them consider stones a form of terrorism or uncivilized action. I personally felt happy when western public opinion stood against the Zionists who break children's bones. But I also felt sad at the same time. Our people's institutions have been subjected to destruction for 40 years. The Palestinian is fought, even in the womb. Golda Meir could not sleep the night when a Palestinian baby was born. Others among them [Zionists] believe that the only good Palestinian is a dead Palestinian. Infertilization poisons are dumped into the Palestinians' drinking water in the occupied territories. I say that I also felt sad because the truth has been concealed from the world public opinion by certain interests and by the Zionist-controlled

media—this corrupt imperialist science that has masterfully molded world public opinion for 40 years. All that I have mentioned are nothing but minor details of what Zionism, which was founded fundamentally on terrorism, has done. This is why we say that we are a people distinguished by their hostility to terrorism because we have been more severely burnt by terrorism than others.

This Zionist entity has, as I have already said, arteries that nourish it and there are extraordinary imperialist espionage dens that perpetrate evil deeds to serve its interests. We cannot offer roses to these dens that recently assassinated Martyr Abu-Jihad, that previously demolished the PLO offices in Tunisia, assassinated [Palestinians] in Cyprus, and that daily raid with their planes the [Palestinian] camps beyond the borders of the land they have seized. So who is expanding the conflict arena?

[Question] Since last March's operation and since Abu-Jihad's assassination, you have been saying that you will take revenge. But to date, you have done nothing.

[Answer] We swear by God almighty and by the martyrs' blood that we will punish every hand that took part in these operations. We will deal a blow as great as these martyrs. The revenge for Abu-Jihad will be as big as Abu-Jihad and as big as the dimensions of Abu-Jihad's history. We will strike even within the U.S. territories. The enemies know that we warn before we strike because we do not stab in the back. We strike face to face. You will hear news in the near future. On the other hand, we do not want to do anybody an injustice. Therefore, investigation and deliberation are necessary.

If we examine the chain of assassinations against Palestinians leaders and cadres in Europe, and if we rely on history, we find that they [enemies] are the party who started this [terrorism], and he who starts is the unjust. We are entitled to retaliate against these dens, regardless of whether they are overt or concealed behind a misleading name plate, in order to protect our people's cadres and leadership.

[Question] What, precisely, is your true nature? Who are you, 'Atif? How did you attain all this notoriety?

[Answer] You know that we started working with Fatah from the beginning and until 1974. In the years between 1965 and 1974, we lived under numerous internal and political conflicts. The movement experienced a number of disagreements and well-known currents were crystallized within its framework. But those currents continued to operate within that organizational framework until the October 1973 war when, in the wake of that war, a number of Palestinian factions and then the PLO embraced the so-called political settlement program. That step actually crowned the political conflict. But Fatah was the main faction and this conflict surfaced more strongly within its ranks. We represented the main current within the movement opposing this political

tendency which had its reverberations among the ranks of the movement's base. The Palestinian citizen and struggler felt that this tendency represents a serious and unprecedented turning point in the [PLO's] political thought and conduct. Throughout the struggle's history, we had never raised the possibility of cooperation between us and the Zionist entity and of acknowledging this entity's right in our land. The program endorsed by the movement at the time called in essence, not in form, for a Palestinian entity in the [West] Bank and [Gaza] Strip. Concurrently, the program tacitly acknowledges that the rest of Palestine constitutes the Zionist entity. It is well known that the rest represents more than 82 percent of Palestine's area. We say that we opposed this program for several reasons, including the fact that what was projected conflicted with Fatah's program and starting points and with the PLO's charter. A strong debate, still ongoing, has taken place on whether this projection is in conflict with the unchangeables and the principles or whether it is the opposite.

The night continues and the dialogue goes on. 'Atif brings new packs of cigarettes and asks me if I am hungry. He looks for something to eat but finds only some grapes. We take a break from the talk of politics, assassinations and blood. I discovered that 'Atif is a poet and a skilled diplomat.

The dialogue, as strange as can be, goes on and he tells me about meetings between Abu-Nidal and famous people in this world, about operations which they have carried out, about the meaning of democracy and of intolerance at the same time, and about the infiltration of intelligence agencies that fight and pursue them. To be continued.

EGYPT

Ministry Announces Cotton Export Prices for 1988-89
45040004b Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-DUWALI in Arabic
8 Sep 88 p 5

[Text] The ministry of economy and foreign trade yesterday announced Egyptian cotton export prices for the 1988-1989 season. The export price is the price received by cotton export companies at the Alexandrian port after these companies have ginned the cotton in behalf of the government. Export prices this season fluctuated between 103 and 236 Egyptian pounds per kantar [one kantar = 44.93 kg] according to grade and staple length.

The price of one kantar of "Jizah 45 extra" long-staple choice-grade cotton is set at 236 Egyptian pounds and that of "fully good" extra was set at 232 Egyptian pounds, while the prices of other grades [of Jizah 45] are gradated down to 196 Egyptian pounds for the "fully fair" grade.

The maximum price for "Jizah 70," is 161 Egyptian pounds for the extra grade, and the minimum price is 121 Egyptian pounds for the "fully fair" grade.

The maximum price of "Jizah 76" is set at 162 Egyptian pounds, and the minimum is set at 122 Egyptian pounds.

In relation to the intermediate long[-staple] species, the price of "Jizah 69" cotton is 150 Egyptian pounds for the "extra" grade, and 110 Egyptian pounds for the "fully fair" grade. The minimum and maximum prices for "Jizah 81" are 143 Egyptian pounds and 103 Egyptian pounds respectively. The maximum and minimum prices for Jizah 75B are 145 Egyptian pounds and 105 Egyptian pounds respectively, and the price for "Jizah 75" and "Jizah 80" and "al-Dandarah" is 155 Egyptian pounds for the extra grade and 115 Egyptian pounds for the "fully fair grade."

Government Services Authority Announces Profits From Last Fiscal Year's Sales

45000016 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 30 Aug 88 p 8

[Text] Sales from the General Authority for Government Services during the last fiscal year totaled 27,275,000 Egyptian pounds, garnered from 21 public auctions held by the authority. Sales of goods and merchandise from customs represented a sum of 11 million pounds, or 40 percent.

This was stated by Muhammad Abu-al-Makarim, president of the authority. He added that its information center has prepared a report on the authority's accomplishments in the last fiscal year, and that sales indicate a high demand for national merchandise by those returning from abroad.

He said that the sales of leftover items and miscellaneous scrap reached 840,000 pounds, or 3 percent. Sales of government cars totaled 4,440,000 pounds and cars from customs totaled almost 6 million pounds. He asserted that the authority accomplished what was expected of it in the [five-year] plan and increased its sales by 10 million pounds, and that the next five-year plan for the authority will include developments to be achieved.

North Sinai Governor Details Progress of Three New Projects

45040004c Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-DUWALI in Arabic 8 Sep 88 p 5

[Article by Ahmad al-Shihawi]

[Text] Al-'Arish—Ninety thousand feddans of vegetables and fruit are currently being cultivated in the centers of al-'Arish, (al-Shaykh Zuwayd), Bi'r al-'Abd, and al-Hasanah, and a station—equipped with a semi-automated slaughterhouse, a feed factory, and a 30-ton capacity refrigerator—for the fattening of 250,000 chickens per day has been established at al-'Arish. In addition, two dams will be built, one on Wadi Magharah, which will

dam 5 million cubic meters of rain and flood water; and the second on Wadi al-Karam, which will dam 3.7 million cubic meters per day to be used for irrigating new agricultural lands. .

Major General Munir Shash, the governor of North Sinai, stated that a saltworks will be built west of al-'Arish at a cost of 300 million Egyptian pounds. The saltworks will produce 300,000 tons of salt, and provide 3,000 employment opportunities. He added that an olive pickling factory, costing 5 million Egyptian pounds to be covered by local and foreign investments, will be built in al-'Arish to handle 600 tons of olives grown in the area. In addition, a clay brick factory, which will produce 50 million bricks annually, will be built at al-Maghara with local and foreign investments totalling 15 million Egyptian pounds.

The governor stated that agricultural development is crucial for the overall development of areas which will attract new residents to the Sinai, and help reduce population pressures in the Nile Valley. He added that a plan has been drawn up in cooperation with the German Technical Assistance Organization for the exploitation of surface water in the Nakhl region in order to create new arable areas at a cost of DM3 million.

Shash also stated that a station will be built to produce 2 million chicks annually, which will be distributed to and raised by citizens. In addition, private sector poultry farms [in North Sinai] produce 2.5 million eggs annually, 166 chicken fattening farms produce 3.5 million chickens annually, and the public and private sectors' quail project is annually producing—in its first phase—600 thousand quails, whose number will increase in subsequent phases of the project.

Shash also stated that, in addition to the two dams on Wadi al-Maghara and Wadi al-Karam, the al-Ruwaf'iyyah Dam stores 2.4 million cubic meters of flood water in Wadi al-'Arish, and preparation is under way for a limestone production project in which limestone reserves totalling 298 million tons annually will be extracted. The estimated investment cost of the project is 9.8 Egyptian pounds.

Study Details Irrigation Consumption by Governorate

45040004a Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 16 Aug 88 p 9

[Article by 'Adil Shafiq]

[Text] An analytical study of water consumption for agricultural purposes in Egypt in the three growing seasons (winter, summer, and nilotic), indicates that the governorates of Lower Egypt consumed approximately 15.2 percent of the total amount of water consumed in winter growing season cultivation, whereas the governorates of Middle Egypt consumed 5.9 percent, and the governorates of Upper Egypt consumed 5.3 percent.

Regarding summer growing season crops, the governorates of Lower Egypt consumed approximately 38.8 percent of the total amount of irrigation water, the governorates of Middle Egypt consumed approximately 9.3 percent, and the governorates of Upper Egypt consumed 18 percent. As for the nilotic growing season, the governorates of Lower Egypt consumed approximately 3.1 percent [of the total amount of irrigation water], the governorates of Middle Egypt consumed 3 percent, and the governorates of Upper Egypt consumed 1.87 percent.

Dr 'Imad al-Din Mustafa of the National Institute for Planning stated that the study indicates that al-Buhayrah governorate consumed the greatest amount of water relative to the other governorates of Lower Egypt, with peak consumption occurring in the winter growing season, when it consumed approximately 2.9 percent of the total amount of irrigation water used in agriculture in the three growing seasons. The next largest consumer was al-Sharqiyah governorate, which consumed 2.66 percent, followed by al-Daqahliyah governorate which, in winter growing season cultivation, consumed approximately 2.47 percent of the total amount of water used in the three growing seasons.

Regarding the governorates of Middle Egypt, al-Minya governorate consumed the greatest amount of water—1.87 percent—in the winter growing season . It was followed by al-Fayyum governorate, which consumed 1.63 percent, and by Bani Suwayf governorate, which consumed 1.2 percent.

Among the governorates of Upper Egypt, the Asyut governorate consumed the most water—1.92 percent—in the winter growing season . It was followed by Sawhaj governorate, which consumed 1.88 percent, and by Qina governorate which consumed 1.2 percent.

With regard to the summer growing season, the al-Daqahliyah governorate consumed the greatest amount of water—7.87 percent—in relation to the governorates of Lower Egypt. It was followed by al-Buhayrah with 7.69 percent, al-Sharqiyah with 6.6 percent, Kafr al-Shaykh with 6.34 percent, al-Gharbiyah with 4 percent, and al-Minufiyah, which consumed 2.28 percent.

In relation to the governorates of Middle Egypt, al-Minya consumed the greatest amount of irrigation water. It consumed 4.2 percent, and was followed by al-Fayyum governorate, which consumed 1.9 percent, and Bani Suwayf governorate, which consumed 1.7 percent.

Qina governorate consumed the greatest amount of water in Upper Egypt—7.9 percent—in summer growing season cultivation. It was followed by Asyut governorate, which consumed 3.8 percent, and Sawhaj governorate, which consumed 1.7 percent.

The study indicated that in Lower Egypt, al-Buhayrah governorate consumed the greatest amount of water, followed by the governorates of al-Sharqiyah and al-Qalyubiyah.

In relation to the governorates of Middle Egypt, the total amount of water consumed in the nilotic growing season was approximately 3 percent, with al-Fayyum governorate consuming the greatest amount, approximately 1.1 percent, followed by al-Jizah governorate, which consumed 0.79 percent, and by Bani Suwayf governorate, which consumed 0.67 percent.

In Upper Egypt, Qina governorate consumed the greatest amount of water—0.57 percent—in the nilotic growing season. It was followed by the governorates of Asyut and Sawhaj.

Columnist Urges More Stringent Controls on Incoming Tourists

45040003a Cairo *AL-JUMHURIYAH* in Arabic
10 Aug 88 p 5

[Article by Muhammad al-Hayawan under "A Word of Love" rubric]

[Text] It is true that our country is open to tourism. Every foreigner is entitled to obtain an entry visa, visit the pyramids and the Sphinx, and fish at al-Ghardaqah. However, this does not mean at all that we should open our doors without proper consideration and scrutiny, because some of those entering Egypt are taking from it, threatening its security, and not providing it with any type of benefit.

Every day one reads in the newspapers about the seizure of narcotics from arrivals from Asia, prostitution networks involving arrivals from Africa, fraud operations involving people from the Philippines, thefts committed by maids from Sri Lanka, and so one. Likewise, one reads about weapons and explosives seized from arrivals from Iran, Libya, and Palestine. There has also been news of counterfeiting and drug smuggling, and those accused of carrying out these activities are from Israel. It seems that the government of Israel supervises these operations as part of its war against Egypt; it counterfeits dollars at its presses, produces narcotics in its factories, and then selects people to bring them into Egypt.

It is best that we be scrutinizing and selective with regard to the specific character of tourists, as is done in West Germany, Britain, and France. They welcome rich, clean tourists who spend and who do not beg, and who neither damage security nor threaten national or economic interests. We have no need of a tourist who sleeps in public parks or works for international gangs, nor for the tourist who sells everything she owns, sleeps every night in a [different] place, and leaves Egypt with the proceeds from her activities.

We should welcome Arab tourists from countries which are not in the steadfastness and confrontation camp. We welcome tourists from the Gulf, North Yemen, Tunisia, and Morocco, as well as our Arab brothers whose governments and circumstances do not compel them to act against Egypt. Lebanon's difficult circumstances push it in this direction, and several Palestinian organizations imagine that Egypt is their worst enemy! And there is no need to discuss the Libyan revolutionary committees, the Syrian Ba'th Party, or other combative, fanatic organizations, as their natures are well-known.

There is a difference between a tourist from Japan who owns what he spends and a tourist from China who begs for food, and between a tourist from West Germany who spends his hard currency, and a tourist from East Germany whose currency is worth less than toilet paper, because the West German mark offers an advantage, and the East German mark has neither value nor advantage.

Our country is safe and open to tourists, but we are entitled to be selective. There is no need for suspect tourists or beggars who take and do not spend, or who arrive in our country with smuggled goods or infectious diseases.

Editorialist Urges NDP To Allow Political Activity on Campuses
45040012a Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 13 Sep 88 p 3

[Article by Mahmud 'Abd-al-Mun'im Murad under the "Words" rubric]

[Text] I think I wrote about this subject before, but I see no harm in writing about it again. The subject is that of prohibiting political activity by parties in universities and schools. The one reason given is to give students an opportunity to devote all their time to learning. I believe that this is a very flimsy excuse. A student who wishes to devote all his time to learning and knowledge will not be prevented from doing so if political activity is allowed in his educational institution. By the same token, a student who does not wish to devote all his time to [academic pursuits] and would like, for one reason or another, to become involved in other pursuits besides that of seeking knowledge, can do so. He may become involved in sports, in the arts, or in any other useful or harmful hobby.

When we were attending schools and universities, we used to be politically active. It is true that the predominant political issues those days were the national question and the struggle for national liberation, but the political parties had different opinions about how this struggle was to be pursued. And that is why we had differences. Furthermore, the violent conflict between members of the Wafd Party [on the one hand], and Muslim Brothers and communists [on the other], took place in the schools and universities. That conflict was really violent, and we learned a lot from it. We broadened our political education, and we learned how to deal

with the masses. In fact, we learned how to write political articles in many newspapers which were published openly or quite clandestinely by political groups. At that time the standard of learning was much higher than it is now, whether we're talking about medicine, engineering, law, literature, agriculture, or any other discipline.

What is happening now? It is the National Democratic Party [NDP], in its capacity as the ruling party, which is prohibiting political activity in universities and schools. This means that the NDP itself is not engaged in any activity and has no committees in those institutions of learning. And that means that the NDP is leaving those fields to right wing and left wing extremists and allowing them to practice their secret or semi-public activity on the scene. It means that these extremists are alone on the scene, and young people, in general, find no opportunities for debate and democratic dialogue. Thus, with no one in their midst to oppose the extremists, young people are easily taken in by their ideas.

Fighting extremism and terrorism is not exclusively a police function. It is the function of democratic parties which are interested in training their followers in the proper method of dialogue and debate. It is obvious that extremist ideas, which go so far as the practice of terrorism, take hold in young people's ranks in particular. We can check all the court cases, and we will find that most of the defendants were university and secondary school students.

Editorialist Sees Israeli Satellite as Challenge to Arab Science, Unity
45040012b Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-DUWALI in Arabic 27 Sep 88 p 9

[Editorial: "Science in Our Lives: the Arabs and the Israeli Satellite"]

[Text] After the June 1967 War, Gen Moshe Dayan, Israel's defense minister at that time, toured the battlefield in Sinai where he paused at length in front of a scene in a trench. The general saw an Israeli soldier whose bayonet was buried in an Egyptian soldier's stomach; but the Egyptian soldier had both hands wrapped around the Israeli soldier's neck. Both men died in that position. The Israeli bayonet was in the Egyptian soldier's stomach, and the Egyptian soldier's fingers were clutching the Israeli soldier's neck. After contemplating that scene for a moment, Moshe Dayan said, "This is the war that we must avoid with the Egyptians." What Moshe Dayan said during [as published] the June War meant that war had to be swift and without direct contact. The war had to be fought indirectly: that is, it had to be fought with airplanes or rockets. To be more specific, the war had to be fought from a distance. It seems that the ruling military establishment in Israel still believes in this strategy because of its emphasis on the air force as an effective weapon to end the war. The military establishment in Israel is determined to develop its

weapons and the equipment that would enable it to fight a war from a distance. Launching an earth-orbiting satellite is the most recent such development.

At the outset, it may be said that the heavens are crowded with hundreds or rather thousands of satellites which were launched by America and Russia. Some of these are spy satellites; some are communications satellites; and some satellites are for military purposes. A satellite's character and function are determined by the equipment it carries. For example, spy satellites carry precise photographic devices which transmit information periodically to receiving stations on earth. These devices can detect the smallest objects: they can even detect underground rocket silos within half a meter of their exact location.

What is certain is that the special relationship between the United States of America and Israel made it possible for Israel to obtain the military information which was collected by American spy satellites. But Israel, according to its own point of view, wants to have its own means for gathering information. It does not want to be at anyone's mercy, not even that of America itself. That is why Israel made plans many years ago to have its own nuclear reactor where it can produce materials it can use to manufacture its atomic bombs. Finally, it wanted to have its own rockets which it can use to launch satellites. From Israel's point of view, launching an Israeli satellite would be a scientific victory which can be utilized for all purposes, including military purposes. From the Arab point of view, however, launching an Israeli satellite sounds an alarm, an alarm for all Arabs, who, despite their differences, must unite against this danger. Arabs must come up with an Arab plan to launch an Arab satellite that can, even in peace, stand up against the Israeli satellite. It is a fact that Arabs do not lack the scientific competence to do that. Hundreds of scientists inside and outside the Arab homeland can be utilized in such an endeavor. And there are Arab funds, part of which can be earmarked for something useful to the future of the Arab nation.

Author Discusses Outcome of Excessive Freedom
45040207A Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-IQTISADI in Arabic
18 Jul 88 p 92

[Article by Dr 'Ali al-Din Hilal: "Open Society, Jeopardized Society"]

[Text] There is a fine line between freedom and anarchy.

There is also a fine line between democracy and disclosure of state secrets and between freedom of expression and the violation of honor and the sacred.

In well-established democratic societies, such matters are regulated by strict rules and regulations that apply to all people, big and small, to government as well as citizens. In our country, unfortunately, we often confuse

freedom with other matters and are always ready to sacrifice true democratic traditions when they conflict with our whims and interests.

Freedom of expression, for instance, means that people in high positions in the government and the armed forces give statements to the press, divulging secrets of meetings they attended in their official capacity. The problem is that there is no way to substantiate such statements and the problem is complicated when the public is presented with more than one version of the same meeting and opinions are attributed to people who are deceased. All this in the name of freedom.

Is it freedom of expression, for example, for a writer, a journalist or a researcher who accidentally gets hold of a set of documents on the 1967 war or the 1973 war, or any other public issue, to rush to publish them to come up with his own conclusions and deductions? The problem is that we do not know how complete such documents may be and what other documents may have preceded or followed them. No document can be understood and analyzed unless it is put in the context in which it was issued.

Is it democracy and freedom of expression to publish a book by an Egyptian lady in which she heaped dirt on a large number of the Egyptian elite, devoting the lion's share to members of the General Intelligence Service? It is noteworthy that a large part of this book was published in a Kuwaiti newspaper in 1975. Hence our question about the reasons for its publication in Egypt at this particular time.

Could it be on the occasion of the advent of the month of July, the annual commemoration of the attack on the 1952 revolution? Could it be a reply to the Ra'fat al-Hajjan TV serial and the way the Egyptian Intelligence Service was portrayed in it? Or could it be part of a process aimed at driving the Egyptian people to despair and to give up on their symbols, institutions and leaders, thus losing any ray of hope in the future and withdrawing into a shell, barely living from hand to mouth, or what?

Is it democracy for the state to follow the policy of "silence is golden," refraining from any kind of comment or intercession as though these things are happening in another world it cares nothing about, while senior officials leave it to the president to comment and counsel? The fact is that every official has a role to play and every institution bears the responsibility of commenting and clarifying matters related to events. To maintain its credibility in this regard, the government must act objectively and must publish whatever documents it has in its records in an honest and impartial manner.

Some years ago the government promulgated a law allowing the release of documents after twenty years but we have neither read nor heard about a single document government agencies have released on the fifties. Major ministries are supposed to have special divisions to sort

out documents and make them available to the public after the period set by law. Government non-compliance with this law tempts others to follow the same path, a path that the government violates through bans and proscriptions, and that they violate through publication.

All this does not spell democracy or freedom.

Indeed, it spells neglect, lack of discipline and contempt for the law and the rules and regulations observed in democratic countries. It is an indication that democratic values are not deeply rooted in society. Associating such practices with democracy may alienate people from the meaning of democracy.

It is a jeopardized society, not an open society.

IRAQ

Engineering Company Manager Describes Industrial Projects
44040009 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic
7 Aug 88 p 7

[Article by Bishri Muhammad Shabib]

[Excerpt] The Ministry of Industry and Military Production's State Engineering Company for Industrial Design and Construction has completed and inaugurated several industrial and service projects in Iraq.

The company's director general told AL-JUMHURIYAH that the industrial and service projects inaugurated during the country's celebration of the Glorious July holidays included laying the cornerstone for the industrial gas project in Diyala Governorate. A contract has been signed with a foreign company for supplying the equipment, providing technical consultation, and supervising the installation of the equipment. The state company will carry out the site work, including civil engineering work, installing the equipment, and operating the project once it is built.

It is hoped that the equipment will arrive in April 1989. Installation will take about a month and a half, with non-stop work by the company's employees. This project will produce an estimated 1,278 cubic meters of oxygen gas and 122 cubic meters of liquid oxygen an hour, in addition to 5,400 cubic meters of nitrogen gas an hour. The project will also produce argon gas, which is used in welding operations in mechanical shops across the country. When this project, the cornerstone of which will be laid on 30 August 1988, is completed, it will meet the country's needs for these gasses, and the surplus can be exported. At present, some of these gases are imported from abroad at very high prices.

The director general added that the company recently opened 174 residential flats in Ba'qubah, as well as an elementary and a secondary school, a market, a health clinic, and a youth center, all of which are part of the

residential quarter for the al-Qadisiyah installation at Ba'qubah. Also, 90 apartments were opened in al-Khalis. These apartments were built by a committee formed to directly carry out the work at the expense of the contractor, who withdrew from the job because he was unable to finish it. This job cost about 4 million Iraqi dinars and was completed in only 1 year. This same contractor had previously built 450 apartments, an elementary school, and a kindergarten in Ba'qubah and 150 apartments, a kindergarten, an elementary school, and a market in al-Khalis, as part of the same project, at a cost of 16 million dinars, which was the total cost of the project. These jobs were completed last year, also during the country's celebration of the Blessed July Revolution holidays.

The director general went on to say that in addition to these jobs, the loading facilities and the connection to the branch rail line at the new Southern Cement Project were also inaugurated. This project cost 6.6 million dinars, and was built by an Indian company with which a contract had been signed.

The state company followed up on the completion of this project, which will be ready to start production during our Glorious July holidays. The project is intended to load loose and bagged cement onto railroad cars at the new Southern Cement Project at al-Samawah and transport it to the other governorates, particularly the ones in the south, which do not have enough cement plants. This is part of the country's strategic plan to provide cement to all the governorates by rail. The project can load 400,000 tons of bagged cement and 400,000 tons of loose cement during each work shift.

The director general explained that this project consists of installations and conveyors connecting the cement plant's packaging section to the bagged cement loading docks by means of four loading machines, an electronic control section, two 1,500-ton capacity conveyor belts for loading loose cement, and two 100-ton capacity bridge scales, in addition to four rail lines and engine yards, along with all necessary services such as electricity, air compressors, and automatic controls for operating the machinery. This project will facilitate the transport and marketing of cement, particularly to the southern governorates. [passage omitted]

JORDAN

Figures Provided for Irbid Governorate Development Plan
44040379 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 6 Aug 88 p 4

[Article: "Study Evaluates Irbid Governorate's Development Plan and Local Agricultural, Industrial, and Touristic Potentials and Resources"]

[Text] During 1986-87, 74 million Jordanian dinars were spent on projects included in the 5-year development plan for Irbid Governorate. This figure represents 52 percent of the total projected investments for those 2 years.

This information was revealed in a study which evaluated the first 2 years of Irbid Governorate's development plan.

The study dealt with the plan's main outlines and features, potentials and factors for local development, the major problems and obstacles to development, and the plan's strategy and development aims.

The strategy and philosophy of the Irbid development plan is based on several principles and foundations which are in keeping with regional planning strategy and principles and which can be outlined as follows:

1. Studying any local conditions, factors, and potentials which might be relied on in setting up feasible development projects and programs;
2. Exploiting resources, potentials, and factors which are available in the region;
3. Getting the people to participate in preparing, implementing, following up, and supervising the development plan, thus unifying and bringing together the various efforts and activities;
4. Setting up small-scale production development projects throughout the region, an activity which should not consist solely of providing water, electricity, and telephone services, but which should also concentrate on economizing on the invoice costs of such services to make it easy to provide suitable job opportunities;
5. Halting migration from the countryside to the towns and from the small towns to the more important cities, and later on achieving a reverse migration to the countryside and small towns.

The most important goals of the 1986-90 Irbid development plan are:

1. To provide high-quality basic social services to raise the society's standard of living;
2. To create production development projects to raise income levels and provide job opportunities;
3. To try to benefit from the region's potentials and resources when conceptualizing development projects and programs;
4. To develop the agricultural sector by increasing farm acreage, especially since most of the 600,000 donums of arable land is not being used. Emphasis will also be placed on diversifying agricultural production. In this connection, the authorities have begun implementing a policy of planting fruit trees on stony state land set aside for woodlands by planting carob, pine, and pistachio trees. In this experiment, 200 donums have been planted so far; and

5. To utilize treated sewage water to plant fodder and other suitable crops, since purification plants can be expected to provide between 2 to 2.5 million cubic meters of waste water each year.

The Main Outlines

The 5-year plan for Irbid Governorate calls for the investment of 492,207,000 dinars between 1986 and 1990. The public sector's share will be 304,560,000 dinars, or 16 percent of the total targeted investments in the state's national plan.

The projected investments have been distributed among the three main sectors: social affairs and services, which together received 238.4 million dinars, and infrastructure, which received 116.1 million dinars.

According to location, the Irbid 1 area received the greatest percentage of the investments—52 percent, or 127.3 million dinars. Jarash and 'Ajlun came in second and third, the former receiving 42.7 million dinars and the latter 38 million dinars of the projected investments.

The al-Kurah and Bani Kananah development areas received the smallest share of projected investments, with the former receiving only 13.2 million dinars and the latter 22.1 million dinars.

In general, it can be pointed out that the most important sectors which the development plan is trying to concentrate on are housing and government buildings (94 million dinars), municipal and village affairs (33 million dinars), higher education (28 million dinars), and education (28 million dinars). As for infrastructure, the main sectors are water (64 million dinars) and transportation (47 million dinars). As for commodity production sectors, agriculture (67 million dinars) and industry (48 million dinars) received the greatest attention.

Evaluation of the Irbid Governorate Development Plan's First 2 Years (1986 and 1987)

1. Breakdown of Projected and Actual Investments

Irbid Governorate's 5-year development plan aims at investing 492 million dinars between 1986 and 1990, 65.2 percent of which (321 million dinars) will go to the public sector. During the first 2 years of the plan, 1986 and 1987, projected investments amounted to 144.16 million dinars, of which 81.74 million dinars were to be invested during the first year, 1986.

The public sector's share of projected investments for the first 2 years amounts to 105.38 million dinars, or 73 percent of the total for those 2 years. In other words, this figure is higher than the corresponding figure for all the other years of the plan. This important index illustrates

the state's strategy of directly intervening in development projects, particularly services, ahead of the private sector, in order to provide state encouragement for individual or corporate investors.

As for actual investments and expenditures, it has become clear that 74.03 million dinars were invested and spent during 1986 and 1987, which amounts to 52 percent of the total projected investments for those 2 years. During the first year, actual investments amounted to 34,656,000 dinars, or 48.3 percent of the total projected investments for that year. During 1987, actual investments amounted to 39,375,000 dinars, or 54.4 percent of the total projected investments for that year. In other words, in 1987 the rates of actual investments and expenditures improved noticeably over the rates for the previous year.

With respect to the distribution of actual investments between the public and private sectors, it has become clear that the public sector's share amounted to 73.1 percent (105,380,000 dinars) of the original projected investments for 1986 and 1987. The ratio of actual investments to projected investments for the public sector was about 52 percent (54.81 million dinars), which is higher than the corresponding figure for the private sector.

2. Sector-by-Sector Evaluation of the Development Process

The 5-year plan's investments for the first 2 years were distributed to 19 different sectors which can be broken down into 3 groups: social affairs and services, infrastructure, and commodity production.

The following table [not published] shows projected and actual investments, in thousands of dinars, for 1986 and 1987, and the ratio of actual investments to projected investments.

The social affairs and services sectors received the highest percentage of projected and actual investments—43 percent of all projected investments and 46 percent of all actual investments. Actual expenditures amounted to 55.2 percent of the total sum to have been invested during the first 2 years of the plan.

Out of all the social services sectors, religious endowments, education and higher education showed the highest ratios of actual investments, amounting to 105 percent, 97 percent and 75 percent, respectively.

By comparison, other sectors attained modest rates of actual investment, such as women (10 percent), youth (22 percent), housing (24 percent), and social development (24 percent). None of these figures exceeded one-quarter of the projected investments. This is due either to the unavailability of sufficient financial resources and allocations, as was the case with the women's sector, or

to a re-examination of project implementation, particularly in the housing sector, or, finally, to the delayed implementation of some projects, as was the case with some projects in the youth sector (the al-Hasan Sports City project).

Infrastructure sectors accounted for 34 percent of the total projected investments and about 44 percent of actual investments. However, the infrastructure sectors, where most of the projects belong to the public sector, achieved the highest rates of actual investments—66.4 percent. The credit for this goes, first of all, to a 90-percent increase in rates of expenditures on and implementation of public transport projects, and, secondly, to a 71-percent increase in those same indices for water and irrigation projects. Except for communications sector projects, where the rate of actual expenditures dropped to only 13 percent, the infrastructure sectors showed an increase in rates of actual investment in most sectors of the development plan. Here it must be pointed out that the drop in the rate of implementation and actual expenditures for the communications sector is due to changes and modifications to the Communications Organization's plan.

The commodity production sectors combined account for 23 percent of total projected investments and 10 percent of actual investments. The most important characteristic of the commodity production sectors as a group is that, first of all, they are limited to two sectors (agriculture and industry) and second, their rate of actual investment (22.5 percent) is declining due to a drop in actual investments in industrial projects. Only 1,515,000 dinars out of an original 21,637,000 dinars planned to be invested in that sector were actually spent, i.e., only 7 percent.

3. Evaluation of the Development Process According to Location

Estimated and actual investments for Irbid Governorate varied among the eight development areas into which the governorate has been divided according to conditions, factors, and needs for service and production (agriculture and industry) projects. The Irbid development area, the largest from the standpoint of population (27 percent) and the area of highest concentration of social and economic activities, accounted for 52 percent (75,426,000 dinars) of the total projected investments, while its percentage of actual investments was less, amounting to 41 percent (30,388,000 dinars).

The Jarash development area came in second place with projected investments of 11 percent and actual investments of 14 percent. This is basically due to the fact that the area is the second largest development area from the standpoint of population and is the site of large development projects like the al-Zarqa' Basin project, the reconstruction of the archeological town of Jarash, and the Irbid-Jarash road.

The areas accounting for the smallest share of projected and actual investments are those with the smallest populations, such as al-Kurah and Bani Kananah, which together had 6.1 percent (4,753,000 dinars) of all projected investments and 8.9 percent (6,539,000 dinars) of actual investments during the first 2 years of the development plan.

As for the rates of actual investment, the picture is totally different from the distribution of and variation among projected and actual investments since those regions with the smallest share of projected investments were the highest with respect to the rates of actual investment. The Bani Kananah area (81 percent), al-Ramtha (76 percent), and al-Kurah (69 percent) achieved the highest rates of actual investment. The most important reason for this may be that these areas need social services and basic projects, and most of the small but urgent service projects are located there. This is in contrast to other areas, especially the Irbid 1 area which accounts for more than 52 percent of total projected investments for the governorate and in which most of the large production and service projects are located. In general, we can conclude from what has gone before that in most of the governorate's development areas the rate of actual investments is higher than their percentage or share of projected investments due to the fact that the rates for the Irbid 1 area have fallen behind the volume of investments.

MOROCCO

1982-87 Industrial Production Index Growth Reported

45190005c Casablanca *LA VIE ECONOMIQUE* in French 2 Sep 88 p 4

[Text] When analyzed over a 5-year period (1982-87), the index of industrial, energy, and mining production shows generally very positive development. However, there are some weaknesses by sector and sub-branch, although overall an advance can be seen in comparison to the reference period (1982).

The Positive Development of Industrial Production Between 1982 and 1987

Mines	+2.9 percent annually
Energy	+3.1 percent annually
Industry	+4 percent annually

Mining Sector Up 2.9 Percent

The mining production index showed an average annual growth of 2.9 percent during the period 1982 to 1987. It was in 1983 and 1984 that this index showed the most notable advance, reaching the levels of 108.5 (+ 8.5

percent) and 118 (+ 9.6 percent) in those years, respectively. This was in particular thanks to the increase in the production of phosphates (+ 12.7 percent) in 1983 and (+ 10.8 percent) in 1984.

Subsequently, since 1984 the mining index has stayed at a slightly lower level, 115.1 in 1987, thus showing an annual rate of decline of 0.9 percent between 1984 and 1987.

Energy Sector Up 3.1 Percent Annually

The production index for the energy sector reached the level of 116.5 in 1987, showing an annual rate of increase of 3.1 percent since 1982.

There were different variations in the production of the three branches in the sector throughout this period.

- The major variations in the production of coal occurred in 1984 when the index was up 11.4 percent (from 102.2 in 1983 to 113.9 in 1984). The index then showed an initial drop of 7.5 percent in 1985, and a second more important one of 18.1 percent in 1987 compared to 1986.
- The production index for refined oil varied a little from the level of 102.1 in the course of the period between 1982 and 1987, showing an average annual increase of 0.7 percent.
- It was the electricity production index which underlay the sustained rise in the energy index. The average annual increase in this index was 5.8 percent between 1982 and 1987.

Processing Industry Up 4 Percent Annually

In 1987, the production index for the processing industry sector reached the level of 121.7 compared to 100 for 1982, showing an average annual increase of 4 percent from the earlier to the latter year. All of the annual variations exceeded 3.6 percent except for 1984 when industrial production remained unchanged for all practical purposes.

The development of the production index for the processing industry as a whole for the entire 1982-1987 period can be broken down into four different groups of branches:

- The branches with a relatively major increase in production: the base metal index (up 18 percent); chemistry and parachemistry (up 9.4 percent); textile products and knitted goods (up 7.7 percent); electrical and electronic equipment (up 6.1 percent); and other food industries (up 5.3 percent).
- The branches in which the production increase was relatively moderate: beverages and tobacco (up 3 percent); office, measuring, optical, and timekeeping equipment (up 2.9 percent); items of apparel (up 2.6 percent); rubber and plastics (up 2.6 percent); machines and equipment (up 2.5 percent); food

Development of Energy and Mining Industry Production Indices
(Base 100: 1982)

Branch or Sub-branch	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1986-87
						Variation
A. Mines	108.5	118.5	117.4	115.7	115.1	- 0.5
040 Nonmetallic minerals	110.1	121.4	119.7	119.7	119.6	- 0.1
041 Phosphates	112.7	124.9	121.6	125.1	124.8	- 0.2
042 Other nonmetallic minerals (for the chemical industry)	77.8	113.1	111.5	88.1	79.9	- 9.3
044 Other nonmetallic (non- quarried minerals)	138.0	85.6	108.7	103.3	124.2	20.2
050 Metallic ores	94.0	93.4	97.0	80.2	75.1	- 6.4
051 Iron ores	112.8	69.5	80.4	87.4	93.9	7.4
052 Other metal ores	93.5	94.0	97.5	80.1	74.6	- 6.9
B. Energy	104.9	107.3	111.9	113.5	116.5	2.6
06 Solid fuels--coal	102.2	113.9	105.4	105.4	86.3	-18.1
07 Refined petroleum	102.2	101.9	105.6	99.9	103.5	3.6
08 Electricity	107.6	111.3	118.6	127.0	132.4	4.3
C. Processing Industries	106.9	106.7	113.0	117.5	121.7	3.6
10 Food industry products	109.5	106.4	104.9	105.4	112.2	6.5
11 Other food industry products	110.2	120.3	125.7	130.9	129.5	- 1.1
12 Beverages and tobacco	108.8	113.6	115.8	112.1	115.9	3.4
13 Textile products and knitted goods	106.6	111.7	121.8	140.1	144.7	3.3
14 Clothing, excluding shoes	111.7	108.1	101.3	112.7	113.9	1.1
15 Leather and leather shoes and other articles	112.5	101.2	98.0	94.0	77.4	-17.7
16 Timber, wooden articles, basketry, furniture	102.8	101.2	98.7	98.6	102.9	4.4
17 Paper, cardboard and printing	105.5	101.8	103.0	104.7	110.1	5.2
18 Processed quarried mineral products	95.3	87.4	89.2	83.1	88.0	5.8
19 Base metal industry products	103.4	97.5	227.2	220.9	229.2	3.8
20 Metal structures (excluding machines, transportation equipment)	107.1	106.9	104.5	96.5	95.4	- 1.1
21 Machines and equipment (excluding transportation equipment)	94.7	88.0	109.1	123.9	112.9	- 8.9
22 Transportation equipment	95.4	74.5	98.9	106.3	101.1	- 4.9
23 Electric and electronic equipment	93.6	103.6	122.0	138.5	134.6	- 2.8
24 Office, measuring, optical and timekeeping equipment	84.2	90.9	123.9	117.2	115.2	- 1.7
25 Chemical and parachemical products	119.4	122.8	126.5	140.9	157.0	11.4
26 Rubber or plastic	101.6	103.1	103.7	103.6	113.9	9.9
27 Other manufacturing industries	115.5	105.7	87.2	102.6	93.9	- 8.5

- industry (up 2.3 percent); and paper, cardboard, and printing (up 1.9 percent).
- The branches in which activity showed practically no change: lumber, wooden articles, basketwork, furniture, and transportation equipment.
 - And, finally, the branches which showed a decline in production: leather and leather articles (down 5 percent); processed quarried mine products (down 2.5 percent); other manufacturing industries (down 1.3 percent); and metal structures (down 0.9 percent).

Agricultural Fund Expands Services to Rural Areas

45190005a Casablanca *LA VIE ECONOMIQUE* in French 19 Aug 88 p 6

[Text] For the quarter of a century it has existed, farm credit has made an ever increasing contribution to the agricultural sector.

From 1981 to 1986, the total volume of credit distributed by the National Agricultural Credit Fund (CNCA) came to 11.6 billion dirhams, including 5.8 billion in the form of investment loans. This financing effort is the result of a number of actions undertaken to simplify the procedure of granting credit and to expand the distribution network.

Within this framework, the conditions for and methods of bank action have undergone a simplification of procedures, a revision of financing norms, a broadening and diversification of the field of action, and also increased decentralization.

The adaptation of the financing policy was supported and supplemented by a major extension of the network to move closer to the actual and potential clientele.

The services provided by the CNCA have also included aid and assistance to farmers during difficult periods of drought by providing them with reports and rescheduling their debts over a long period under favorable conditions.

These deeds and actions, important though they are, nonetheless fail to meet fully the financing needs of the rural sector. The CNCA thus has a duty to give its activities new impetus.

Aware of the situation, the officials of this body have drafted a program for action designed to consolidate its banking services. The program, the realization of which comes within the framework of the plan for directing economic and social development between 1988 and 1992, is based on the following guidelines:

- Continuous improvement of the services provided to the clientele, through;

- The simplification of procedures;
- The strengthening of vocational training;
- The gradual intensification of the work of the agencies to allow them to provide speedy and reliable service;
- The expansion and improvement of the network. To achieve this, the development of "mobile banks" will be undertaken. They will ensure that farm credit penetrates the most distant regions more completely for the purpose of sparing the farmers difficult and costly travel;
- A contribution toward the improvement of the conditions of life and the settlement of the population in the rural sector through the introduction of financing of:
- Rural housing benefiting all income levels and categories of consumers with a revision of the 18 July 1984 agreement pertaining to economic housing;
- The development and extension of small and average units, enterprises, projects, and trade activities;
- The appointment of young agents, prize winners at vocational training schools, technicians and cadres specializing in farm and rural activities;
- The traditional trades which process certain vegetable and animal by-products and employ considerable manpower;
- The development of farm products through the extension of financing to all of the agroindustrial enterprises preceding and following the farm production process;
- The extension of CNCA financing to the sectors and branches involved in coastal fishing, agroforestry, and aquaculture. The purpose of this extension is to contribute to the development of self-sufficiency in food on the one hand, thanks to products of the sea, and on the other hand to generate new financial resources which should be recycled into agriculture;
- A contribution to the campaign against the splintering of farm operations. This activity could be supported in the future by the establishment of a land fund within the CNCA;
- The encouragement and collection of savings through:
- The deposit of new products and services adapted to the specific needs of the depositing personnel—personal credit, rebates, guarantees and collateral, unsecured credit, and overdraft facilities;
- The establishment of a foreign operations department to encourage exports of domestic products, farm and agroindustrial products in particular, to tap the savings of the TME and earn a profit from them through rural activities; and
- The establishment of new bank tellers' positions in the rural towns and centers with a savings potential.

Finally, the CNCA is currently studying the possibility of developing an insurance system which would enable it to offer its and its own personnel adapted coverage under advantageous conditions.

Report on Planned Energy Projects
45190005b Casablanca LA VIE ECONOMIQUE in French 26 Aug 88 p 4

[Text] Studies of new electrical production units designed to meet the developing demand for energy are being actively pursued.

Water Resources

The files to solicit bids for the following plants have been created: Sebkha Tah (4.5 megawatts-30 gigawatt hours), for hydrosolar development; Merija (30 megawatts-60 gigawatt hours); and Mechra Sfa (30 megawatts-60 gigawatt hours), both on Oum Er Rbia Wadi.

Detailed preliminary project files have been created for the following plants: Sidi Driss (3 megawatts-17 gigawatt hours) on Lakhdar Wadi; Martil (14.5 megawatts-19 gigawatt hours) on M'Hajrat Wadi; and Imezdilfane (68 megawatts-110 gigawatt hours) on Oum Er Rbia Wadi.

Detailed studies have been initiated on the following plants: Mechra El Hajar (8 megawatts-25 gigawatt hours), on Sébou Wadi; and on Oum Er Rbia Wadi, Taskdert (31 megawatts-53 gigawatt hours); Tajamout (28 megawatts-48 gigawatt hours); Ait Messaoud (9 megawatts-50 gigawatt hours); a compensatory dam on Dchar El Oued; and Sefrou (250 kilowatts-1.3 gigawatt hours) on Agai Wadi.

Feasibility studies have been completed on the fortification of the Alit Thailat Dam and the Afertane fall with an intake at Ifahsa on Laou Wadi as well as on Tiquit-Tanafnit on Oum Er Rbia Wadi.

The outline studies for the Ain Bernouss, Tarmast, and Oulad Sidi Moussa on Oum Er Rbia, and for the Tamajjout and Tamga sites on Ahancal Wadi have been completed. The Tamga project has been subdivided into five levels, each of which will be provided with separate equipment, because a large tapping gallery is not feasible.

The Microplants

As for the construction work on the Tabant pilot microplant (67 kilowatts), in the province of Azilal, the pertinent transaction was canceled for budgetary reasons. It was decided to reduce the capacity of the microplant from 200 to 67 kilowatts. A supplementary ADP [Advance Plan Design] was prepared, and the call for bids for the work will be issued shortly.

The call for equipment bids for the Tabant microplant was worked out jointly with the USAID and will be issued in the United States.

In addition, detailed studies were drafted for two microplants: Arhbalou N'Kerdouss in the province of Errachidia, and Tinkhar N'Ijni in the province of Taroudant.

A routine order called for the preparation of the bid solicitation files for the two microplants as of 13 July 1987.

With regard to the hydroelectrical microplants, the inventory of those which are isolated in the Saharan slope area of the Atlas Mountains was granted financing by the African Development Fund based on an agreement signed in December 1986. International bids pertaining to these studies were opened on 11 November 1987.

Thermal Energy

In the oil shale sector, plans call for studying the desirability of developing secondary deposits by installing small units. Moreover, the first of these units, which will serve as a pilot project, has been planned for Timahdite where the conditions are best for exploitation. The studies and tests pertaining to this first unit have been halted, however, pending location of a source of financing.

In the realm of 300-megawatt coal-powered facilities, the general studies and the drafting of the specifications and technical requirements for a plant in Jorf Lasfar culminated in the signing of a contract for studies.

Following a comparison of four preselected sites in the El Jadida region, a location near the port of Jorf Lasfar was chosen for the building of the plant.

The drafting of a volume including the technical specifications for all the projects and equipment has been completed, and it is presently being studied by the National Electricity Office (ONE).

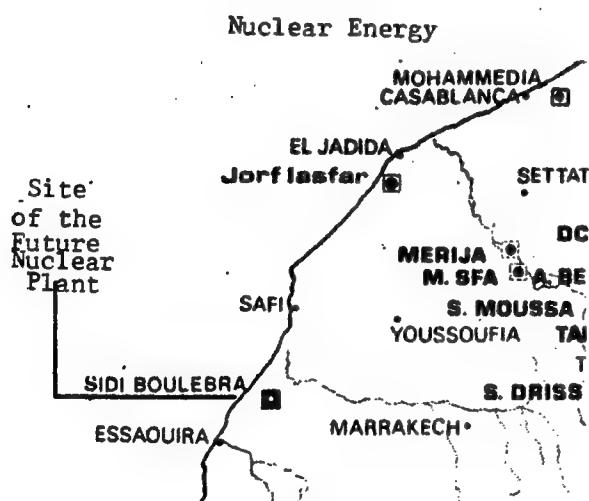
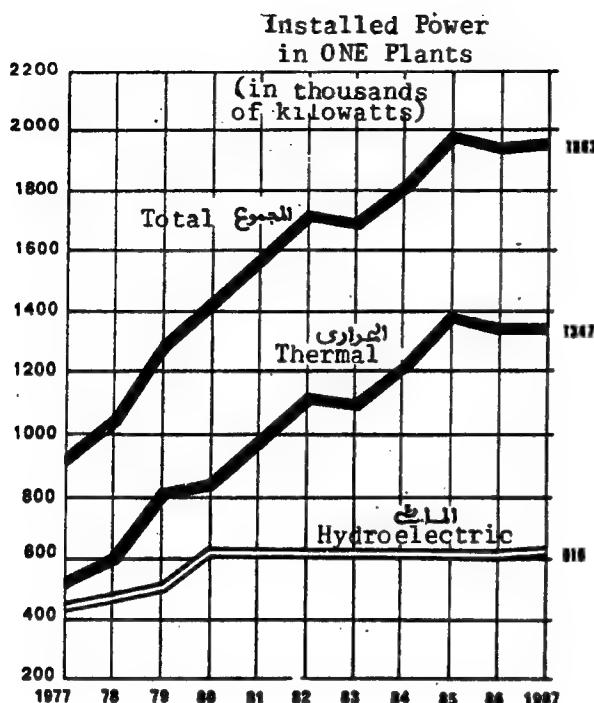
As for gas turbines, a call for bids is being drafted for four or six gas turbines with a total power of 200 megawatts, approximately, operating on heavy fuel. These supplementary means of production are intended to minimize the deficit likely to result from the major lag which has developed in the hydroelectric program.

Development of Electrical Energy Consumption

1984	5,706.5MkWh
1985	6,041.6
1986	6,342.5
1987	6,715.9

With regard to nuclear electric power, site and feasibility studies on the first plant led to the signing of a cooperation agreement with the SOFRATOME on 21 June 1983. It was endorsed by the financial controller on 24 November 1983. The routine order was given to begin studies as of 1 June 1984.

Concerning the studies of sites and the basis of a proposed classification of seven potential sites, two preferred sites were chosen in the course of the month of June 1985. They are Bir El Har, in the province of Safi, and Sidi Boulbra, in the province of Essaouira.



Following the studies and research pertaining to these two sites and the drafting of the pertinent summarizing report, which concluded with the proposed classification of the above-mentioned sites, Sidi Boulbra was designated as the site of choice. This choice was endorsed by the IAEA and the MEM. However, this designation was accompanied by a certain number of recommendations for future studies and research to be conducted prior to final acceptance of the site.

Work on the call for bids, orders, and contracts pertaining to the projects and loans to be made with a view to qualification and confirmation of the Sidi Boulbra site has, for the most part, begun.

Plans called for beginning the geological survey program in early March 1988.

In addition, active work is continuing on the feasibility studies.

For the National Nuclear Energy, Science, and Technology Center (CNESTEN), the study of which was entrusted by the Ministry of Energy and Mines to the ONE, the consultant was chosen to carry out the summary preliminary studies, the choice of site, and the detailed plan for the first stage including, among other things, the installation of the Triga Mark I experimental research reactor which has already been ordered. Notification of the corresponding contract was sent out on 30 May 1985, and the routine order was issued setting 10 June 1985 as the beginning date. The provisional reports on the completion of the studies on Missions I (summary preliminary studies) and II (choice of site) were drafted and submitted to the pertinent authorities and to the IAEA. The agency recommendations pertaining to security at the sites were sent to the organizations involved.

Transportation Network

Solicitations for bids on the construction of three 225-kilovolt lines totaling 660 km and eight 60-kilovolt lines totaling 673 km are either in the study phase, or calls for bids are being issued. Similarly, the plans for construction or expansion of 5 225-kilovolt stations and 14 60/22-kilovolt stations are under study or in the initial work stage.

OMAN

Official Comments on Economic Growth, Drop in Deficit 44000065 Muscat 'UMAN in Arabic 3 Sep 88 p 7

[Text] His Excellency Mr Muhammad Ibn Musa al-Yusif, deputy for financial affairs, stressed that the financial and economic situation in the Sultanate has generally improved last year, thus making it possible to a large extent to reduce the balance of payments deficit.

In a statement to the daily 'UMAN, His Excellency said that the country's national economy registered an appropriate level of growth whereby the growth rate reached 5 percent.

He went on to say that this was the objective of the economic and financial policies followed by the government of His Majesty Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id in order to

adapt to the new realities whether these be the collapse of oil prices or other international economic variables. His Excellency stressed that this policy was successful in attaining its objectives.

On the subject of the economic impact of the Iran-Iraq cease-fire on the Arab Gulf region, His Excellency Muhammad Ibn Musa al-Yusuf said that the cease-fire itself is a good thing and that naturally it would encourage and reassure many, especially foreign investors in the area. Likewise, the two countries—Iran and Iraq—will require a major reconstruction and effort following the ravages inflicted on their installations as a result of the war.

His Excellency speculated that the area would witness a good development phase and an extensive construction boom with a desirable impact on the area's economic activity.

It is noteworthy to mention that, according to official end-of-year records, last year's deficit amounted to 149 million Omani riyals compared to 700 million in 1986. This is attributable in part to the relative rise in oil prices on the one hand, and to the policies adopted by His Majesty's government to deal with the consequences of the collapse in oil prices, on the other hand. These policies, His Excellency stressed, have succeeded in attaining their objective.

There was also a significant drop in government expenditures last year reaching a rate of 15 percent compared to 1986. Last year's end-of-year government records indicate an improvement not only in contrast with 1986 but also in contrast with projected estimates for the 1987 annual budget. In that budget, general revenues were estimated to rise by 14.5 percent to reach 1.322 billion riyals while the actual figures demonstrated that they rose by 23.7 percent to reach 1.4275 billion riyals. This increase in total revenues is 8 percent higher than what had been predicted.

Oil revenues were expected to increase in 1987 by 20.8 percent but the actual results at the end of the year showed that the increase, which was about 62.1 million riyals more than the 1.081 billion predicted in the budget estimates, reached 1.1431 billion riyals according to the final statistics. Thus, actual oil revenues increased by 27.7 percent and now constitute 80 percent of all revenues combined.

Bank Finances Agriculture Programs
44000032 Muscat TIMES OF OMAN in English
25 Aug 88 p 1

[Article by Meena Ganjv]

[Text] A poultry farm near Barka has received a loan of R.O. one million from the Oman Bank of Agriculture and Fisheries, the largest single loan ever extended by the bank.

"The bank which has been financing agriculture and fisheries since 1982, is now also extending finance for livestock farming—a sector in which it is keenly interested," said Mr. Sa'd al-Janabi, the bank's first Omani General Manager.

He told "Times" in an interview that besides the poultry project the bank was involved with two major projects of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. These involved financing modern irrigation systems in 300 livestock farms selected by the Ministry all over the country under the agricultural development programme. The purpose of this extensive programme is to raise agricultural productivity.

The bank intends in the future to participate in the promotion of livestock farms in the Southern Region where the agricultural land is limited and livestock rearing is one of the main occupations.

Giving details of the loans disbursed so far this year he said that in the first seven months of 1988, which also is the 'Year of Agriculture,' the bank had extended loans of RO3.2 million—already exceeding last year's total loans of RO3.192 million. About 80 per cent of the loans given from January to July were for agriculture while other 20 per cent were approved for farm mechanization and fisheries equipment.

Besides financing farmers and fishermen, the bank also provides money to assist them in marketing their products. This year it disbursed RO500,000 for an export oriented 'Dry Lemon' project. Fishermen can procure loans to buy refrigerated vans to help transporting fish.

The General Manager said that the bank not only arranged easy term loans for farmers and fishermen but also for companies dealing with agricultural and fisheries products.

New Farms

"In the case of establishment of new farms, the bank oversees the entire project which includes well digging, installation of water pumps and modern irrigation system, fencing, levelling and advising the farmer on choice of seeds, crop and fruit patterns and fertilizers."

"Anybody owning a farm and needing financial assistance or technical advice is welcome to use our service," Mr al-Janabi said. The bank has agronomists in each of its branches to assist farmers by rendering necessary technical advice.

If the applicants are farmers or fishermen by profession the bank finances 90 per cent of their loan requests at merely two per cent interest per annum. If farming or fishing is a secondary profession the bank finances 70 per cent of the loan request with the interest component varying between three and five per cent per annum. Prior

to sanctioning loans the bank ensures that the loan repayment can be met from the farm's own produce, i.e., the cash flow," the General Manager said.

Rules

Last year the bank amended its lending rules by making approval of technical specifications for modern irrigation system, i.e., either drip, sprinkler or bubbler, an essential prerequisite to financing new farm projects as these systems save water, energy and labor besides raising the productivity of the farm.

To enhance services to farmers and fishermen the bank plans to open seven new branches of which two will be for the first time, in Musandam. With the opening of these new branches in Khasab al-Baya'n, Buraymi, Rustaq, Bidaya, Sinni and Masirah the bank will be increasing its total number of branches to 15 adding to its present branches in Sohar, Barka, Muscat, 'Ibri, Nizwa, Ibra, al-Kamil and Salala.

Mr al-Janabi said that although the bank had set up a special "Repayment Follow-up" department to intensify its efforts in loan collection, the results were not as predicted. Loan repayment collected from January to July this year was RO770,000; RO99,000 less than the collection made in the corresponding period last year. He attributed this decline to various factors.

Time

- Most of the farm owners were either civil/government employees or businessmen who have very limited time to devote to the running of their farms which are manned by expatriate workers.
- Heavy rains this year had caused floods and damage in the Batihan region and the bank had responded by rescheduling loans.

He said it was observed that farmers who worked on the land themselves achieved better productivity.

Deeds

Farmers, the General Manager said, were granted loans by the bank keeping the farm's title deed as collateral. In some instances the formal procedures involved in executing the legal mortgage were hindered by lack of complete title deeds despite the bank's efforts to coordinate with the Ministry of Justice, Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and Ministry of Housing. "The Suq al-Shari" the title deed written by Shariah Court in the district where the farm is located does not satisfy the bank's security requirements as some Shariah Courts refuse to register the details of loans because of the interest component," he explained. "Hence the bank urges farmers to obtain title deeds from the Ministry of Housing prior to seeking a loan," he added.

To Serve

Mr al-Janabi stressed that the bank had been established to serve and promote the agriculture and fisheries sectors and any Omani farmer or fishermen or local company dealing with related activity satisfying the credit requirements of the bank was entitled to approach it for financial assistance and service.

Agriculture Ministry Builds Dams

44040007c Muscat 'UMAN in Arabic 6 Sep 88 p 3

[Text] The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is currently building three dams to feed underground water supplies.

They are being built in Wadi al-Jizya in the Suhar administrative district, in Wadi al-Ghul in the al-Hamra' administrative district, and in Wadi Tannuf in the Nazwa administrative district. Their purpose is to capture the water of these valleys, which usually is lost in the desert or the sea, and to make use of it in feeding underground water supplies and increasing the country's water reserves. This would mean that most of the water would be saved for agricultural uses, for irrigating the citizens' farms, thus increasing agricultural production. Moreover, the ministry is currently preparing a preliminary study on a number of other dams in various regions of the sultanate to determine economic and technical feasibility, thus laying the groundwork for detailed studies and the implementation phase.

On the other hand, the pertinent agencies in the ministry have begun to carry out maintenance and drilling operations on thousands of water wells, and to maintain hundreds of channels in various regions of the country in order to preserve traditional water sources. These channels cover most of the agricultural regions of the country, and are considered the fundamental source of crop irrigation.

It should be mentioned that the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is extremely interested in the water sector, since it is one of the important and principal sectors involved in increasing agricultural production. In this respect, the ministry's agencies are currently conducting extension symposia in the various agricultural regions, in the presence of farmers, on the importance and benefits of modern irrigation systems with respect to covering the plants and saving water.

Four Domestic Water Wells To Be Drilled

44000064 Muscat 'UMAN in Arabic 1 Sep 88 p 1

[Text] It was decided that the Ministry of Electricity and Water would drill two new wells in the Kawas and Aflaj areas of 'Ibri. Suitable locations for the two wells were selected during a visit to 'Ibri by Sulayman Ibn 'Ali al-Mahdi, acting director for surface and ground water services at the Ministry of Electricity and Water.

During his tour, al-Mahdi met with Shaykh 'Abdallah Ibn Siba' al-Sa'di, the deputy administrator of 'Ibri, and discussed with him the location of the two wells.

In the same context, the ministry has completed the drilling of two other wells in the areas of Al-Ma'mur and Hadath.

The implementation of this project is part of a plan by the Ministry of Electricity and Water to provide domestic water services for people residing in remote areas suffering from the unavailability of drinking water.

Project To Encourage Small Breeding Farms
44040007d Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic
16 Aug 88 p 7

[Text] The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is implementing a project to encourage the raising and development of goats. The aim is to encourage and train the Omani farmer to break into the field of animal husbandry and to invest in it, and to put an end to the phenomenon of raising goats merely as a hobby. Participating farmers are subject to rules and preconditions that require them to make a portion of their animal products available to local markets, as well as to increase the area planted with green fodder with which to supply the animals' feed requirements.

The ministry is forming small production units for raising goats and sheep in regions in the north of the sultanate. The ministry is also providing a flock selected from local, pregnant animals and distributing them without charge to the people. From there, it will look after the health of these animals, so that the production operation will go well. That will lead to an increase in the national product with respect to numbers of goats, and a rise in the productive efficiency of the existing farms. It will also lead to increased self-sufficiency in exploiting and developing natural resources in the sultanate, by improving production and breeding methods on a technical, scientific basis.

The project aims at establishing model production units for raising goats, with the purpose of spreading the local goat and increasing its meat and dairy products throughout the northern region of the sultanate. Its purpose is also to support and encourage the farmers to turn to investing in the field of developing the livestock production sector, in particular goat husbandry. It aims to develop local resources and increase local goat production, thereby decreasing the quantity of meat exported from abroad, which would save the state a good amount of hard currency that would be used to import meat. An increase in products from the animals in the markets would lower their cost to the consumer, and increase individual income as a result of the profitable income from raising goats and sheep on sound, scientific bases, and subsequently the national income at the state level would increase.

The pens built in the project are to be a model for any citizen who wants to set up a project to raise goats and sheep, that he may copy the plans of the pens and apply the scientific husbandry methods used in them. The project will be a strong incentive to the people to set up such economic farms.

This project will be applied in all the agricultural regions of the northern sultanate. Certain administrative districts have been selected, which are representative of every agricultural region. This will facilitate supervision and follow-up on the selected farms by those concerned in the ministry, as well as the offering technical guidance to the producers.

The farms that will participate in this project will be selected on the basis of clearly defined procedures and specifications that must exist on the farms that will be among those supported by this project. They are: possession by the farmer of a farm of no less than 7 feddans, and that the farmer adhere to applying all advice and guidance offered to him by the ministry. Preference will be given to those who have experience in raising animals, who have an adequate, permanent source of water on the farm, and who are involved exclusively in agricultural work.

During the past year, 1987, 150 farms, geographically distributed throughout the north of the sultanate, were selected. This is seen as the first phase of the project, which is expected to double during the farming year to 300 farms, an addition of 150 more farms. The ministry is giving each farmer 10 head of female and pregnant goats. The ministry is also helping to build the pens in which to house these animals, and to set up a system to irrigate the part planted with green fodder on each farm.

To ensure the success of this project, the ministry itself has taken on the task of overseeing the project to enhance the technical and extension services to be offered free of charge and on a regular, periodic basis.

In addition, the Oman Agriculture and Fisheries Bank is offering facilitated loans for installing the irrigation system needed to irrigate an area of five feddans. This is to encourage the people to grow wheat in addition to the green fodder for feeding the animals on the farm.

SUDAN

Deputy Governor Discusses Security Problem in Darfur
45040242 Khartoum AL-USBU' in Arabic 21 Aug 88 p 5

[Interview with al-Shafi' Ahmad Muhammad, deputy governor of Darfur, by AL-USBU'; date and place of interview not given]

[Text] Al-Shafi' Ahmad Muhammad made a name for himself as an outstanding leader of the Darfur uprising when, on 6 January 1981, forces rebelled against President Numayri's decision to appoint Mr al-Tayyib al-Mardi governor of Darfur.

This uprising was truly one of the strongest popular confrontations in Sudan. It opposed the regime's decrees, brought the regime to its knees, and forced it to withdraw a decree which had been signed less than 1 week earlier. But the uprising was not just the strongest popular confrontation, it was also an unequivocal message to the regime, making it understand for the first time that an attack on the regime was quite possible and that keeping the people silent forever was indeed impossible. It was also a message that brought good news to the people of Sudan about a boy named Rajab.

In that uprising al-Shafi' made a name for himself as a planner, manager, and organizer. He then made a name for himself as a confrontational leader, an eloquent speaker, and a skillful negotiator.

Al-Shafi' made a name for himself afterwards as an active parliamentary representative whose positions landed him in the prisons of the May regime. But he was released by the Rajab [coup] to resume his march.

Al-Shafi' Ahmad Muhammad's appointment deputy governor of Darfur comes at a difficult time indeed. For a long time he battled against people and resisted them over Darfur's national and regional problems. He rallied others and made appeals, but the problems got worse. What will he do now that he has become the second man in the region's government?

The time has come for the man to be silent and to let his actions talk on his behalf.

He is our guest today in a meeting we are holding to find out what his ideas are as he gets ready to turn the opposition's dreams into the government's reality. The facts of our investigation were as follows:

[Question] Who is al-Shafi' Ahmad Muhammad?

[Answer] I was born in 1951 in 'Idd al-Ghanam, south of Darfur. I received my primary education there. I received my middle education in Zalingei and my secondary education in Fashir. I graduated from the College of Agriculture in Khartoum University in 1967.

[Question] When and how did you become interested in public service?

[Answer] My objective interest in public issues began when I was a student in Fashir Secondary School. I was admitted into that school the same year the May coup took place. I was active socially and politically in the Services Committee which represented a union that was banned at that time. Because of this activity I was arrested after a demonstration against Numayri which took place when he visited Fashir on his way to Chad. After that I was involved in different activities in academic and student leagues. I presided over the 40th

assembly of the Students' Union in Khartoum University for the 1978-1979 session. I was also a member of the Darfur Students' Union and the Darfur Students' League in the universities and institutions of higher learning.

After I graduated, I tried to start a private agricultural business, but the project did not succeed. So I went to work for the Agriculture Administration in the region. During that time I became involved in political and social activity whose premises came from Islamic culture. Like other residents of the region, the question of regional government moved me. We were quite convinced, and we still are, that regional government provided the primary and principal framework through which we could realize the social, cultural, and economic progress which had faltered significantly through the channels of centralized government. In that regard, one of our priorities—in fact, this was generally self-evident—was to have the region's residents elect the governor. And yet, President Numayri deliberately appointed Mr al-Tayyib al-Mardi governor of Darfur. The people expressed their anger in the 1981 uprising which forced Numayri to amend his decree and appoint Mr Ahmad Ibrahim Darij governor of Darfur. I had the honor of taking part in that uprising: I was involved in the organizing, the planning, and the confrontation in Fashir. I was also responsible for coordinating activities between the citizens of Darfur in Khartoum and the Fashir Committee. I delivered the address of the People's Committee in the major celebration which was held in Fashir to welcome Mr Ahmad Ibrahim Darij and his government.

I served the city of Fashir as its representative in the Darfur's People's Assembly. I served as a member of the Administrative Control Committee, as vice chairman of the Economic Committee, and as chairman of the regional People's Assembly Authority. We offered through our activity in the assembly [an example of] parliamentary practice that is wise and proper. Sometimes we agreed with the government, and other times we did not. My differences with the provincial government came to a head when I was arrested. I, a member of parliament, was arrested and held for 40 days. Then I was released without a trial. I continued to speak out forcefully on the people's behalf until I was arrested on 10 March 1985 with a group of Muslims. We were moved around between the prisons of Shala, Kopera, and Sawakin until the major Rajab uprising in 1985.

[Question] Mr Deputy Governor, the problem of security in Darfur has been worrying citizens and government officials in the region and in the central government as well. What are the parameters and the dimensions of this problem, and how, in your judgment, can we get out of it?

[Answer] The security problem in Darfur is confined to three areas: armed robbery, foreign intervention, and tribal conflict. Although each one of these areas has its

own causes, they are all interrelated and interconnected. Together, they constitute a triangle of fear which causes people to lose sleep.

Armed Robbery

This is an old phenomenon that grew and developed as other different phenomena have. The present phenomenon is an extension of the old, well-known phenomena of extortion and highway robbery. The difficult economic conditions which swept the area during the years of the drought are considered among the most important factors which contributed to exacerbating that phenomenon. In addition, weapons have been coming into the country; they have been available from those involved in the intra-Chad conflict and in the Chad-Libya conflict. Economic conditions in the neighboring countries are poor, and, in addition to all that, the powers of the state are weak, and its prestige is gone because the rule of law is missing and the region's police force is poorly equipped and armed. The means of transportation and communication are weak, and the roads are rugged. Tribal relations enter into the picture, and as a result people are lost without a trace and criminals are hidden because people fear shame and revenge. All these factors tempted the weak-spirited to adopt armed robbery as a profession whose returns are huge and swift.

Total consideration of all these factors is a must to remedy this phenomenon which has been exacerbated by economic, social, and political factors. Present priorities, however, must be set as follows:

- A strike force must be prepared and equipped with the most effective and the most modern kinds of weapons. Rapid means of transportation that are equipped with direct communications devices are to be provided.
- The rule of law is to be enforced, and theft cases are to be settled promptly. They are to be given maximum priority.
- Citizens are to be psychologically mobilized against this phenomenon. A state of cultural and social siege is to be set around citizens, reminding them of the spirit of religion and reviving moral values which fight against this shameful conduct.
- Clan leaders, mayors, policemen, senior citizens, and the various enlightened sectors are to be asked to participate in efforts to contain this phenomenon.
- I would like to commend the capable role that is currently being played by the region's anti-armed robbery troops. Their efforts helped weaken this phenomenon.

The deputy governor had this to say about foreign presence, the second side of the triangle of fear in Darfur:

[Answer] The fact that the reconciliation government recognized that there were foreign troops in Darfur was a daring and a strong move. It was a step in the right direction to contain and eliminate the problem. On the

one hand, it gives efforts which are being made to contain armed robbery a shot in the arm because the presence of foreigners constitutes the main source of weapons which are used in armed robberies.

What is also required now is the preparation of a strong strike force which can set a siege around these foreign troops and get them out of the country with the utmost speed.

Keeping the country out of the existing dispute is also a must. The country should not become involved in the intra-Chad conflict or in the conflict between Chad and Libya.

Diplomatic efforts for a peaceful solution to the dispute in the region are to be intensified. In that context, popular diplomacy is to be utilized. It can play a great role in that regard because of the depth and strength of relations between the peoples of the region.

The deputy governor had this to say about tribal conflict, the third side of the triangle.

[Answer] Peaceful coexistence is the main, general rule under which tribes have existed in Darfur. Manifestations of harmony and peacefulness outnumber those of confrontation and division. Cultural and ethnic diversity is a recognized fact, existing in the context of mutual respect for diversity and privacy and in the context of care and concern for national harmony and African unity. The fights which sometimes occurred between these tribes were always caused by the natural friction which occurred over pasture and water sources. These disputes were kept in check by tribal wisdom, and losses were minimal. We may cite in this regard disputes which took place between the al-Ruzayqat and Ma'aliya tribes; between the al-Ruzayqat and Dinka tribes; between the Bani Halbah and Mehri tribes; between the Salamat and al-Ta'a'ishah tribes; between al-Zaghawah and Meidob tribes; between the Birgid and Daju tribes; and between the Fellata and al-Qamar tribes.

The fight that is going on now between pastoral Arab tribes and the Fur tribes in the area of Marrah Mountain follows the same pattern. It is true that the outbreak of events in Marrah Mountain was awesome and frightening, but that, of course, was due to the circumstances and conditions under which those disputes broke out. They broke out at a time when the state's general power had been weakened and weapons had become available. That was one of the side effects of the international conflict which is occurring around us. Overlapping that is a growing fear that is a result of the growing danger from armed robbery gangs and of the disruptive shortage in pasture and water which has been the result of years of drought. Then there are desires and aspirations unleashed by democracy in the midst of political and partisan conflicts. Many tribesmen tried to gain political leadership positions in their tribes. All these and other

factors contributed to what has this time been a bitter conflict. Unfortunately, the conflict created heavy losses in lives and property and before that in security and stability.

We believe that we are to start dealing with these facts by putting tribal wisdom to work. It was tribal wisdom which managed to keep the peace and maintain the safety of society in the region over many years.

Citizens themselves must be mobilized to oppose manifestations of division and infighting which happen for no reason. Whose interests are being served by this infighting? Whose interests are being served when people are driven out of their homes? This is a question that everyone must answer unequivocally.

Tribal and clan leaders and prominent figures in the region must also be encouraged to participate fully with educated citizens of the region, and they must be encouraged to speak with one voice. Complete settlements of the aftermath of a conflict can thus be reached, and blood money and compensation can be paid to achieve reconciliations. Various ways known in the region for settling conflicts can also be used. In addition, everyone should be addressed with a religious spirit and with the spirit of compromise, cooperation, and compassion embodied in Islamic provisions. The people of the region, tribal leaders and educated people, have the key to the solution. We must not expect the remedy to come to us in capsule form from Khartoum.

All this must be done in the context of the state's strong power. The government must become a true and real sponsor of efforts to reconcile parties and reach a compromise, maintaining throughout neutrality and impartiality. Security problems in Darfur are interrelated and interconnected, but gaining the upperhand over these problems is not impossible. From our position in the regional government we will make every effort possible to change the status quo in Darfur and to make it better. Our weapon in this regard will be our morals, our faith, justice, and determination.

[Question] I was in the region a few days ago, Mr Deputy Governor. The shortage in staples has taken hold in the region, and it is spreading. There seems to be no end to it. The shortages are shameful, and the rise in prices is out of control. How do you explain this, and how do you think you will control it?

[Answer] Weak infrastructures, especially those in the area of transportation and storage, are responsible for the problem of supplies in Darfur. The means of land transportation are weak and incapable of meeting the need. Rugged roads are the main reason for the high cost of shipping and the slow movement of goods. I believe that until a road is paved between the region and the principal, central locations where supplies are stored, the transportation crisis will continue to be a major ordeal.

At this time in particular suffering in the region has become intolerable. The price for 1 pound of sugar is 4.5 pounds in major cities like Fashir and Wad Nyala; in villages and small cities, the price is 10 pounds. The price of a bag of corn rose to over 400 pounds, and prices for oil, soap, rice, and other goods also rose. Then the rain disaster exacerbated the crisis in a dreadful manner. News reports indicate that many homes have been swept away by torrential rains and rainfall. One valley that lies near Wad Nyala was flooded, and homes, farms, and gardens on both sides of the river were inundated. The rushing waters also undermined the foundations of the only bridge in Wad Nyala. This is the bridge that links the two parts of the city together; it also connects the city to a commercially and agriculturally vital area south of the city. News reports also indicate that torrential rains had swept away the market in Fur Baranga, which is considered one of the largest cattle markets in Sudan. Torrential rains also destroyed establishments in Kutum and swept away the Hallalat reservoir in the area of Kulbus. For all these reasons we asked that the region of Darfur be covered under the relief program.

But as far as supplies are concerned, we will try to increase the region's quota of supplies, and we will try to improve the channels of distribution. Besides, we will intensify our efforts to repair the region's airports and to push the road project closer to implementation. We will also build warehouses and set up open air storage spaces for appropriate, strategic storage. On the other hand, we must try to establish local, industrial projects to produce many goods which we are now importing from Khartoum. We will try to control smuggling across our borders, and we will also try to set guidelines for trading across the borders and getting the maximum benefit from it.

[Question] The region of Darfur has been known for its shamefully low standard of services. What is your plan to improve services and make them more efficient?

[Answer] At the present time I believe that efforts must be concentrated on repairing existing facilities and making them suitable. Proper maintenance is to be provided; the shortage in equipment and in administrative and professional cadres must be met; and these cadres must undergo the necessary training to make them suitable for their jobs.

Maximum priority ought to be given to health facilities. In the past 15 years, not a single hospital has been added to those that already exist in this region even though the region's population has grown significantly in recent years. In addition, many refugees crossed the borders and settled in the region's villages and cities. The Saudi Hospital in Fashir is the only exception: its staff work in Fashir Hospital also. The region's different hospitals have an urgent need for refurbishing and appropriate expansions. They need large numbers of physicians and specialists in all areas of medicine. In addition, they have an urgent need for trained assistants. They also need

diagnostic equipment such as X-ray devices, laboratories, and other such devices. Improvements are also needed in the employees' professional and living conditions.

The deputy governor also said that there was an urgent need in the region for establishing mobile health units, providing medicine, and paying attention to having a healthy environment. "In this regard, I would like to commend the Jordanian medical mission in Kas and Libya's medical aid."

In the area of veterinary medicine, it is known that the greater portion of Sudan's animal resources is found in this region. What is required is an effort by the state to provide everything that is needed to help this resource grow.

In education, I don't think I would be skirting the truth if I were to say that there is an urgent need for refurbishing in 90 percent of the region's schools. In fact, the schools are almost totally unfit for business. Time and the lack of maintenance have left them dilapidated. Consequently, students' academic standards declined, admission rates into universities and institutions of higher learning have also declined, and losses in education mounted.

What is required immediately is refurbishing these schools and providing the proper climate for teachers, students and workers.

What is required is the prompt establishment of the College of Natural Resources in Fashir. Making plans for a regional university is also required.

What is required is a plan that links education with efforts to develop society. Students' creative energies are to be utilized in this regard.

Following that on the list of priorities would come the implementation of housing plans which are now being considered in the region. Appropriate services, such as electricity and drinking water, are to be provided for these projects.

The water problem has continued to be a major threat to a number of the region's villages and cities. Maximum attention must be given to this matter. Efficiency in the National Authority for Urban and Rural Water has to be improved. Studies are to be conducted to explain the problems of having drinking water shortages, and different alternatives are to be proposed to possible solutions.

In this regard we believe that utilizing the studies made by Engineer Mahmud Bashir Jama', who is an expert in this field, could be very useful. We appeal to his enthusiasm and his experience in this regard, and we ask him to help us come up with a complete plan to build dams, reservoirs, and trenches so we can use water from the torrential rains and water flowing through the inlets and rivers and across the valleys of the region.

[Question] Mr Deputy Governor, what message would you like AL-USBU' to convey to the citizens of Darfur, now that you are about to travel to that region?

[Answer] My message to my people in Darfur is that they should try to speak with one voice. They should unite their ranks and spurn division and disunity. They should mobilize efforts to build and produce so that Darfur can once again gain a place of prominence as far as security, wealth, production, and abundance are concerned. The time for discord is gone, and the time for reconciliation has come.

AFGHANISTAN

Mujahidin Official on Refugee Resettlement, Tribal Issues

46040011 Kuwait AL-MUJTAMA' in Arabic
9 Aug 88 pp 19-21

[Interview with 'Abd-al-'Aziz Farugh, minister of planning in the government of Afghan freedom fighters, by Ahmad Mansur, AL-MUJTAMA's correspondent in Peshawar: "Minister of Planning in the Government of Afghan Freedom Fighters Says 'Resettlement Is a Priority; Agriculture, Education, Health, Housing, and Communications Are at the Forefront of the Government's Concerns"'; date and place of interview not given]

[Text] The impact of the freedom fighters' declaration last month announcing the establishment of their government was significant. It moved the Afghans' fight for freedom to a new stage that differs from those it went through since its onset. The freedom fighters' government is one which is overladen with many burdens and charged with tremendous tasks, requiring all individuals to work together to achieve the things they hoped they would achieve by fighting. The Ministry of Planning is one of those ministries which bears the greatest burden and the greatest responsibility because it is responsible for everyone. That is why AL-MUJTAMA' tried to interview Mr 'Abd-al-'Aziz Farugh, the minister of planning in the government of Afghan freedom fighters. AL-MUJTAMA' wanted the minister to give it a general picture of Afghanistan after the long years during which the country was embroiled in its struggle for freedom. AL-MUJTAMA' wanted to find out what were the minister's views of Afghanistan's future and of the country's reconstruction after, God willing, an Islamic state is established on its soil.

'Abd-al-'Aziz Farugh is one of Afghanistan's most prominent planning experts. He served as deputy minister of planning in Afghanistan before the communist coup. Afterwards he served as a planning expert in the United Nations. He served there from 1981 until May 1988 when he resigned his UN position to accept the freedom fighters' offer to serve as minister of planning in the government of Afghan freedom fighters. Our interview with him began as follows:

[Question] What are the most important subjects with which the Ministry of Planning is now occupied?

[Answer] The most important subject on our mind now is that of resettling Afghan refugees who started leaving their country over 10 years ago. This is undoubtedly a hard and difficult task because there are over 5.5 million refugees who want to return to a country where most facilities have been destroyed. This refugee resettlement operation may be the largest such operation undertaken in this century. Major efforts on the part of all countries and all international organizations and institutions are

required. It is an operation that requires us to determine the relationship between these institutions and organizations and those duties and assistance services they are trying to offer us.

[Question] What are the most important areas the freedom fighters' government is looking into now, and what is the role that the Ministry of Planning is playing in preparing studies for these areas of concern?

[Answer] At the present, the most important areas we are concerned with are those of agriculture, education, health, housing, and lines of communication. Rebuilding in those areas does not depend on aid alone, but we have to have a national economy which is tied to some of those areas, such as food processing and others. Having a strong and effective economic management is even more important since such management can steer international aid in the proper direction. Furthermore, we will not be able to rebuild Afghanistan without the fine expertise of Afghan citizens who are now everywhere in the world, especially in Europe and America. It is now the task of the freedom fighters' government to pursue the proper policy that would bring those people back to Afghanistan so they can help rebuild the country.

[Question] Did any organizations offer to assist the freedom fighters in their efforts to rebuild Afghanistan?

[Answer] So far over 70 institutions offered to help us rebuild Afghanistan. But before we can approve such offers and start working with these institutions, we must first conduct in-depth studies on them. This is because many of them are politically motivated, offering to help for the purpose of replacing the Soviet occupation with a Western occupation of a different kind. That is why we are asking Islamic organizations, governments, and agencies to participate in a primary way and to make a primary contribution in rebuilding Afghanistan. We are also calling upon international agencies and organizations to make every effort to support the freedom fighters' government, and we are asking them to stop supporting the communist government in Kabul. It was that communist government which destroyed Afghanistan, and it is the freedom fighters who, God willing, will rebuild it. That is why it is the duty of these countries, agencies, and organizations to shift all their support to the freedom fighters' government. At any rate, the reconstruction of Afghanistan cannot get underway in the presence of a communist government because that government is a threat to all the security conditions which must exist for reconstruction to take place. The air force in particular is still trying to destroy everything that is green and dry in Afghanistan.

[Question] How are conditions in Afghanistan now after more than 10 years of war?

[Answer] We don't have precise statistics and studies about current conditions in Afghanistan, but we are in the process of conducting realistic and broad studies and

research on all conditions in Afghanistan. We do, however, have some preliminary statistics which indicate that 30 percent of Afghanistan's rivers have been destroyed. The country's animal resources have been reduced by between 30 and 50 percent of what they were before the communist invasion. Over 30 percent of the country's farmland has been deserted, and this land is no longer productive. Over 1,500 kms of principal international roads in Afghanistan have been destroyed completely and are no longer suitable for traffic. Over 30,000 kms of secondary roads have also been destroyed as a result of shelling by airplanes. Approximately 10,000 automobiles owned by Afghans, over 2,500 kms of principal telephone lines, and more than 2,000 schools have been destroyed. These preliminary statistics indicate that 100 percent of the country's health facilities have been destroyed and close to 400 mosques, most of which are historical mosques, have been destroyed. The statistics indicate that 30 percent of the country's villages have been totally destroyed, and that does not include those which have been partially destroyed. Forty percent of the population emigrated or is now homeless, and approximately 1.5 million Afghans have lost their lives. In addition, we are now trying to conduct an accurate survey of the disabled, widows, and orphans.

These preliminary statistics show us the extent to which Afghanistan has been ruined and devastated. They show that rebuilding the country will require international efforts and a great deal of assistance, especially from Islamic countries.

[Question] What are the initial estimates of the sums that will be needed to rebuild Afghanistan? And how much time will be required to complete the task of rebuilding the country?

[Answer] That too is something which requires accurate studies. But our initial estimates show that we will need approximately 2 billion dollars to help us rebuild Afghanistan. That sum will meet our basic needs during 3 years of continuous rebuilding. But we must not stop at utilizing the assistance we receive. We must rather utilize and develop Afghanistan's economic resources even as we continue to rebuild so that the steps we take can be constructive and useful. Relying on financial subsidy alone without utilizing Afghanistan's resources will not help us rebuild the country in a sound manner.

[Question] How can rebuilding the country go on under the conditions of the war which is being fought now in Afghanistan?

[Answer] There are undoubtedly fundamental matters which cannot be tackled and locations where reconstruction cannot commence until the war comes to an end, the communist government falls, and the freedom fighters' government is established over all of Afghanistan's territory. There are now, however, many areas which have been liberated and are under the freedom fighters' control. We can start rebuilding some of these areas now,

especially since it is possible for the freedom fighters to provide adequate protection for some of them. And yet, that too is something for which in-depth studies are required.

Islamic Organizations, Governments, and Agencies Must Participate in a Primary Way in Rebuilding Afghanistan

[Question] Finally, what would you stay at this stage to Islamic governments and international agencies?

[Answer] I would take this opportunity to thank Islamic governments and institutions and Islamic charitable organizations which offered support and assistance in this war. I would thank them for the support and assistance they offered the freedom fighters during the past period. I would call upon them at this stage to intensify their efforts during this period and in the coming period and to seize the initiative in the process of rebuilding Afghanistan. They should not leave this task to Western firms who would then have total presence in the country. I would also ask them to work with the freedom fighters' government in international arenas. Above all, I would ask them to recognize our government and to support us so we can rebuild our country and remove all signs that communists have been present on our land. We ask international agencies and organizations to assume a fair posture vis-a-vis the question of Afghanistan. The Kabul government must not be a member of the United Nations or of any international body after it brought about the ruin and devastation which we referred to previously. Recognition must be given rather to the freedom fighters' government which truly and properly represents the people of Afghanistan.

INDIA

Gandhi Addresses Congress-I New Delhi Convention

46001042 Bombay *THE TIMES OF INDIA* in English
5 Sep 88 p 9

[Text] The Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, today said the opposition moves to forge unity stemmed from opportunism and would only weaken the nation.

Addressing a two-day convention of the Congress Party, here today, the Prime Minister said the opposition had not come out with any concrete programme to solve the country's problems and what they were doing would only weaken the nation.

He said he would be happy if there was a strong opposition and if they put forth a common programme to attack the problems of unemployment and poverty and fight communal and divisive forces.

Mr Gandhi said till the time the opposition formed a stand on major domestic issues, they could not help strengthen the country.

He said so the responsibility now fell doubly on the Congress Party to meet the growing challenges.

He asked his party workers to ensure that all democratic and progressive forces consolidate to achieve ideals of socialism and secularism as envisioned by Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Mrs Indira Gandhi.

Mr Gandhi warned the people not to be carried away by the narrow vision of some. Instead they should cooperate with the Congress Party which wanted to carve a place of prominence for India on the world political and economic scene.

"We must not compromise on fundamentalism and communalism" which only weakens the fabrics of the nation.

He asked partymen to debate national issues like poverty, unemployment, atrocities on weaker sections, development of women and children and discuss them at the grassroot level. He said all issues should be taken to the district and villages panchayat levels to seek views of the people in rural areas.

He said concrete action plans had to be made and people at the block level, the young congress seva dal and mahila Congress members, had to be fully involved in this process to make the programmes more realistic and practicable.

He said only with this process the country could decide what quality of life to give to its people.

Referring to the international scene, Mr Gandhi said the bipolar world was rapidly changing into a multipolar world and India had to stand up on its own to find its rightful place in the comity of nations.

Gandhi Urged Not To Visit PRC Before Tibet Withdrawal

46001036 New Delhi PATRIOT in English
29 Aug 88 p 1

[Text] Several parliamentarians and intellectuals have appealed to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi not to visit China until it withdraws its forces from Tibet and converts it into a buffer state, reports UNI.

They said it would be "fatal" for India if Mr Gandhi visits China at this crucial time. The visit would only show that "India has no longer the determination to defend its territorial integrity", they said.

One of the signatories to the statement, Prof M. L. Sondhi of the Department of International Relations of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, said, "A new concept of Sino-Indian relations can be developed provided the Chinese vacate Indian territory which they have illegally occupied and respect the religious and political rights of the Tibetan people."

Article Blasts Ershad's Anti-India Stance

46240002 New Delhi NAVBHARAT TIMES in Hindi
26 Sep 88

[Text] General Ershad's visit, which will begin tomorrow, is due to his own initiative. His coming upon such short notice is not difficult to understand as Ershad wishes to remove the tensions which have sprung up in Bangladesh-India relations. With his ambition to show himself as a lion at home, Ershad has opened up such an anti-India position that he sees every situation as a crisis for himself and a whip in the hands of his opponents. In spite of differing circumstances which resulted in the creation of their country [from former East Pakistan], the administration in Bangladesh has for quite some time been following Pakistan and has brought about an infallible recipe for staying in power; Islamization and anti-Indianism. The divided and scattered opposition also was successful enough that when in Bangladesh's unprecedented floods, people were unable to obtain adequate and timely relief, Ershad had to stoop so low as to accuse India of a conspiracy of causing water to flow toward Bangladesh.

Without a doubt, by making this ridiculous allegation, Ershad did not do anything to discourage the nation's opposition leaders and journalists from turning the inflamed sentiments of the general populace away from himself and toward India. Yet this allegation is so wicked that it comes at the cost of repeating the crisis of gaining the displeasure of South Asia's biggest power. Furthermore he made the allegation right at the time when India arrived first to extend a helping hand to Bangladesh.

Ershad is keeping his subjects deluded to think that India is causing more water to flow toward their country; adding to their affliction. But what is the truth? In reply there are three points.

1. Ershad indirectly pointed out that India must be releasing more water from the site of the Farakka barrage. Yet in a geographical sense, India could not release water toward Bangladesh without first flooding their own Bengal. Where is West Bengal flooded?

2. If in reality India is wicked, then Ershad had before him the more legal and effective path of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Commission. However, due to fear of being exposed, he limited his campaign to news speeches.

3. Ershad also knows that the floods are not those of the Ganges, but of the Brahmaputra. Where the water is stored, it must be released toward Bangladesh. The wrath is that of nature.

But Ershad, in the grip of unfavorable publicity, in order to justify his position, fell into the trap of giving the order for the removal and quick return home of the Indian helicopters. The order came right at the time the helicopters were assisting in relief and thousands of

letters had poured into the Indian Embassy in Dhaka praising their great service. India had these helicopters go on 10 daily rounds and 2-3 tons of supplies were arriving in each round. Our helicopters even got supplies into the inaccessible areas of Munshiganj and Maim-singh where British pilots flying Saudi copters had refused to go.

In giving the order for the removal of the Indian helicopters while other countries' services were retained, Ershad, playing flood-politics, was making an effort to impress Bangladeshi's with his mark of lionhood [Manliness] as another type of game. Suddenly the foreign minister announced in the Bangladesh parliament that if the two countries could not solve their mutual problems through bilateral discussions, he would consider bringing them before the international arena. What does this mean? What kind of problem is there that India and Bangladesh cannot meet and resolve. The world knows that the problem of distributing water among the two countries is not being resolved because Bangladesh is attempting to get Nepal and China to become parties in this matter. Isn't it true that Bangladesh has made refugees out of 50 thousand Chakma citizens who have been staying for how long in Tripura refugee camps and yet the Ershad government is procrastinating in returning them? Not only that, increasing communalism in Chittagong and the raising of the Islamization slogan has created more Chakma refugees who are compelled to enter India. Ershad refuses to recognize the 5 million Bangali refugees who have entered Assam as Bangladesh citizens. And the fault is India's!

Ershad is conducting a campaign of creating a fuss over the nonexistent question of a Indo-Bangladesh border dispute at Tin bigha. Under the Indira-Mujib agreement, 178 meters of the border strip have been lended out to Bangladesh for 999 years. India will build a bridge there and Bangladesh is building walls on both sides of the bridge. The bridge will be for both countries' military and non-military uses. It has not yet been built. Yet suddenly Ershad has begun to put pressure on India to hand it over. Why? Is it to enhance his image as a patriot. In the border area there are 100,000 Hindus who oppose the transfer. Is Ershad trying to appear as a orthodox Muslim by making this demand.

Ershad is welcome in India. Yet what will he gain by putting pressure on India. He will just remain at a disadvantage. It would be better if solutions to the problems were found within the Indira-Mujib Freindship Treaty. Outside the subcontinent, other countries will not be willing to ignore India and come to Ershad's aid. The example of Sri Lanka is before them.

Pakistan Naval Expansion A Strong Threat to India
46001047 New Delhi PATRIOT in English 8 Sep 88 p 2

[Article: "Pak Naval Expansion To Pose Strong Threat"]

[Text] Pakistan's naval expansion may pose a formidable threat to India as it envisages a link-up with the Chinese or U.S. fleets in the region, reports UNI.

According to defence experts in New Delhi this only could be the "long-term objective" of Pakistan's frantic attempts at augmenting its naval strength in qualitative as well as quantitative terms.

Noting that Pakistan's naval expansion programme was unjustified in view of its very small coastline as compared to India's Mr John Kaniyalil, an expert at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) says Islamabad's naval link-ups with the United States or China could act as very strong deterrents against India.

Ironically, Pakistan has a coastline of barely about 700 km and reports say Karachi harbour is already choked by Pakistani acquisitions.

That Pakistan's naval expansion envisaged tie-ups with other countries was also proved from the fact that though it was much beyond Islamabad's genuine needs still by itself it could not do much damage to India in the event of a conflict, Mr Kaniyalil says.

"External tie-up is vital for Pakistan in spite of the massive expansion in the process and this is equally applicable to all the three wings of its armed forces.

Asked whether a political change could affect Pakistan's naval expansion programme, Mr Kaniyalil said "It will go on irrespective of the political situation in that country as it is designed with a larger perspective in view.

Mr Kaniyalil also countered claims that Pakistan may be expanding its navy for a "larger role in the Gulf" by saying that the region was too far off for Pakistan to play a meaningful role there, even after its recent acquisitions.

"The problem at sea is that you must find the enemy first because only then you have a natural advantage over him and this principle of warfare has remained unchanged over the years," according to experts.

"And Pakistan is getting more and more of such capability vis-a-vis India following its recent acquisitions.

The experts listed Pakistan's proposed purchase of three P-3C Orion maritime patrol aircraft from the United States which would give it enhanced capability to detect the Indian fleet at sea.

Pakistan's order for three British and two Netherlands-built frigates equipped with surface-to-surface and surface-to-air missiles was also indicative of a major modernisation programme in the offing.

A long-range maritime patrol aircraft, Atlantic, was inducted into the Pakistani navy in the last week of May.

Pakistan is also said to be keen on acquiring nuclear capability for its navy.

While reports in a section of the Pakistani press that the United States may come to the aid of Pakistan in this regard were denied vehemently, it is now claimed that Islamabad is negotiating the purchase of a nuclear submarine from China.

Reports in defence publications say that Pakistan may take its navy into the nuclear age with one or more Chinese-built attack submarines (SSNS) which most probably belong to the Han class.

It has also been reported that Pakistan is negotiating the purchase of conventional submarines also from China.

Other recent negotiated acquisitions of Pakistan are two ex-royal navy Leander class ships and three U.S. Navy destroyers.

Experts, however, are of the opinion that the length of Pakistan's coastline did not justify harbouring of destroyers and frigates by it.

Pakistan is, however, said to have acquired three destroyer escorts from the US navy's inventory. Besides it has also been offered lease of nine of the 16 frigates it is retiring as part of its austerity drive.

Pentagon has already notified the Congress of its intention to lease the frigates, five of Brooke and four of Garcia class—to Pakistan.

According to Pentagon sources, "The frigates will enhance operational readiness of the Pakistani naval forces to the benefit of Pakistan and the United States in the Indian Ocean area, a very sensitive area of the world."

The ships being offered to Pakistan are: Brooke, Ramsey Schofield Talbot Page, Bradley's Collahan, Sample and McDonell. [as published]

The Brooke class ships are the U.S. Navy's first guided missile frigates. They have a single missile launcher and a small missile magazine.

The Garcia class vessels have hulls similar to the Brooke class but lack missile launchers.

Leninist Communist Party Merges With Indian CP
46001039 Madras *THE HINDU* in English
2 Sep 88 p 3

[Text] Madurai, Sept 1—The Leninist Communist Party led by Mr Koothakudi Shanmugham has merged with the Indian Communist Party (ICP) founded by the late M. Kalyanasundaram. Mr T. Pandiyan, a close associate of Kalyanasundaram will be the party secretary.

This was announced here on Thursday by Mr Shanmugham and Mr Pandiyan at a press conference. The first meeting of the merged parties was proposed to be held on September 15 at Paramakudi and the next day at Sivaganga.

BJP Suspects National Front, To Stand at Polls Alone

46001035 Bombay *THE TIMES OF INDIA* in English
28 Aug 88 p 1

[Article by Anand K. Sahay]

[Text] New Delhi, August 27—The BJP regards the National Front with suspicion, and also feels that a question mark hangs over the very formation of the front considering bickering within it, sources among the party's office-bearers have said.

Not taking chances with whether the front will eventually materialise, considering the internal haemorrhage sapping its potential constituents, and also with the attitude of the N.F. toward it at the crucial time of the countdown to the election, the BJP at a meeting of its office-bearers earlier this week, decided to prepare itself to go it alone in the coming polls.

To this end, sources said, party units have been mobilised in the various states to make an assessment of how many seats it can contest without entering into alliances or adjustments.

"We are working toward contesting the maximum number of seats," a ranking office-bearer told this correspondent.

The party is hoping to maximise its gains in states where it has enjoyed traditional influence—Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi. Potential adjustment seekers with the BJP will have to think hard how to cajole it to relinquish seats to them in these states.

In the southern states also the party has been "placed on full alert." Meetings of state party executives attended by central office-bearers have already been held in a number of states exhorting the faithful on the merits of the party's policies as part of its go-it-alone thinking.

But potentially queering the pitch for the N.F. or the SJD, the centrist combines hoping to adjust both with the BJP and the left. The BJP is understood to have decided to contest all the seats in Kerala, and a very large number of seats in West Bengal, the two safe ports of the left.

It is a measure of BJP's growing suspicion of and despair with the alliance/front coalition politics being urged by the "centrist" opposition that the party had recently almost decided to pull out of the government in Haryana, marking finis on the gung-ho relationship with Mr.

Devi Lal which not so long ago used to be cited as a model to aspire for at the national level. The Haryana model had been commended to the Surjkund conclave of the opposition last year.

The thinking envisaging quitting the Haryana coalition was abandoned because it was felt it might vitiate the overall atmosphere of unity efforts among the opposition, leading BJP sources said. The matter was raised at the party's national executive at Jamshedpur in June which was held on the heels of the by-elections in which the Lok Dal, led by Mr Devi Lal, stabbed the BJP in the back when it came to the Pali and Khetri seats which the BJP regarded as its stronghold.

Only this week Mr Devi Lal publicly upbraided the Haryana BJP leader, Dr Mangal Sein, on the floor of the assembly creating the potential for an ugly situation. But realising perhaps that he had gone too far, he later invited Dr Sein to his home and made up.

The BJP is mollified, but its leaders do not conceal the "resentment" sweeping the party in Haryana over the treatment meted out to it by Mr Devi Lal in the last few months. They also say the Haryana chief minister had no choice but to offer the olive branch to Dr Sein because his government "would have gone, even though he enjoys a two third majority on his own" in case of withdrawal by the BJP.

The BJP has major differences with the front/unity approach being espoused by Mr Devi Lal, Mr V. P. Singh, and Mr N. T. Rama Rao. The differences are both on the question of future leadership, and on the programme.

Mr Singh's name is being canvassed by Mr Devi Lal for future prime ministership in the event of an opposition victory, but the BJP says no one should be so projected. It feels the issue should be decided by the elected MPs themselves. In fact, the BJP leadership even wonders about Mr Devi Lal's motive in promoting Mr Singh's candidature for the top job.

On the question of programme and policies, Mr Kidar Nath Sahni, a BJP general secretary, said, "The N.F. talks of an alternative to the Congress. We will have to see if their programme is different from that of the Congress. If we have any adjustment or understanding with the front, the programme also has to absorb our policies."

Another senior office-bearer said in the coming election the BJP will actively campaign for abandoning the current policy of "minority appeasement." The scrapping of article 370, which the BJP could not get implemented during the Janata government of which it was a constituent under the banner of Jan Sangh, is also an important item on the BJP agenda.

These, among other issues like corruption in high places, are to become subjects of a nationwide campaign by the party between September 25 and January 23 next.

Jan Morcha Leader Sanjay Singh Arrested
46001040 Calcutta THE SUNDAY STATESMAN in English 4 Sep 88 p 1

[Article by Ambikanand Sahay]

[Text] Lucknow, Sept. 3—In a dramatic move the Central Bureau of Investigation today arrested the Jan Morcha leader, Mr Sanjay Singh. Mr Singh was told by his interrogators while he was being questioned at the Nawal Kishore Road office of the CBI that he was under arrest.

A CBI spokesman later told reporters that Mr Singh has been charged with criminal conspiracy and murder (Sections 120 B to be read with 302 IPC). "We have strong enough reasons to arrest him," the spokesman said but refused to talk in detail about the evidence.

As soon as the news of Mr Singh's arrest spread, the crowd on Nawal Kishore Road, which had been shouting anti-Government and anti-CBI slogans since morning, set aflame an effigy of Mr Rajiv Gandhi. "Ab to yeh spasht hai, CBI bhrashta hai" (It is now clear that CBI is corrupt). About 400 people courted arrest in protest against what they described as "illegal, politically-motivated and whimsical detention" of the Jan Morcha leader.

A team of CBI officials left for Allahabad and New Delhi in connexion with their investigations. The team that has gone to New Delhi is reported to have conducted investigations at U.P. Bhavan, Karnataka Bhavan and the U.P. Government's Transport Bhavan. The investigating officials believe that they might be able to get hold of some relevant documents concerning the former Transport Minister's visit to Delhi.

A CBI official told this reporter that they had more or less completed the investigation as far as identification of the murderer was concerned. "But we have not yet fully completed the investigation on conspirators".

It may be recalled that the killer of Syed Modi was reported to have been identified on Thursday. Amar Bahadur Singh, one of the five persons, lodged in the jail in connexion with the murder case was identified as the one who had shot Syed Modi dead on July 28. The identification parade was held in the presence of a Magistrate in the jail.

It is also significant that only one of the three "witnesses" identified Amar Bahadur Singh as the killer. But CBI officials said that the one who had identified the killer was the real witness, because he had seen the murderous act from close.

In another development, the CBI was reported to be investigating the blood groups of Mr Sanjay Singh and Akanksha, daughter of Mrs Amita Modi.

However, the CBI is yet to recover a firearm which is said to have been carried by Balai Singh, who was waiting in the getaway Maruti van with Tinku at the steering wheel.

The CBI, which was entrusted the case two days after the murder, seems to be investigating into what is described as a "love triangle". According to their theory, on the basis of certain letters and interrogation of Mrs Modi, the married life of the Modis was disturbed as the deceased used to object to the relationship of his wife and her friend.

Working on the clue provided by Mr Akhilesh Singh, the owner of the getaway Maruti van, the CBI repeatedly interrogated Mr Sanjay Singh and Mrs Modi, besides searching their residence here. Mrs Garima Singh, wife of Mr Sanjay Singh, was also interrogated by the CBI on the strength of a letter purported to have been written by her to Mr Singh objecting to his relationship with Mrs Modi.

The CBI collected some records from the Military Command Hospital where Mrs Modi gave birth to a daughter, because she was admitted to there through the influence of Mr Sanjay Singh. The CBI also collected some records from the Pradeshik Cooperative Development Federation where Mrs Modi was employed.

The legal details and jargons apart, there are too many people here who believe that there are too many holes in the CBI case. Many of them believe that Mr Sanjay Singh is being made a victim of a political conspiracy.

Bharatiya Janata Deemed To Have 'Surrendered' to RSS

46001044 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English
6 Sep 88 p 4

[Article by Anil Sharma]

[Text] Nagpur, September 5—After months of dithering, the Bharatiya Janata Party seems to have ultimately surrendered to the wishes of the bosses of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh.

The manner in which the youth wing of the BJP conducted the proceedings of its national executive committee at the Hedgewar Bhavan and the subsequent "couldn't care less attitude" of the BJP president, Mr L.K. Advani, are eloquent testimony to the fact that the BJP, which had tried to carve a separate identity for itself, is not worried if it gets the image of being the political arm of the RSS.

The reiteration by Mr Advani that the BJP is, in fact, much closer to the RSS as compared to the erstwhile Bharatiya Jana Sangh because of "historic links", reinforces this new position taken by the BJP. It is in sharp contrast to the stand that was assiduously cultivated by leaders like Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee in the early days of the BJP.

RSS Strategy

This shift is believed to be part of a long-term strategy worked out by the RSS bosses for the political wing. It is based on the theory that the discontent against the Congress has only worked to the advantage of disgruntled Congressmen all these years. The protagonists of this theory point out that if Mrs Indira Gandhi was defeated in the 1977 elections, the gainer was another Congressman, Mr Morarji Desai. It is also argued that such a Congressman always climbs to power on the shoulders of the organisational structure provided by the RSS-backed political apparatus. This time, the RSS strategists are determined to prevent a repetition of the past events.

By forcing the BJP to toe the RSS line, these strategists have ensured that the disgruntled Congressmen do not get the benefit of the RSS-backed political apparatus. It is reasoned that by supporting the disgruntled Congressmen, the BJP only perpetuates the Congress culture. It is also argued that once this generation of disgruntled Congressmen is politically tackled, then the next steps in the path to power will become easier. These theorists argue that so far it is because of the shortsightedness of the BJP leaders that the goal of power has remained elusive to them.

It is not only the need to stay away from an alliance of opposition parties that has been emphasised from these quarters, but an action plan has also been devised which will make the struggle even more intense among Congressmen and the centrists. One of the focal points of this struggle is the concept of secularism. Although it may sound strange, the campaign against the Congress, based on the argument that it follows a minority appeasement policy is expected to work to the advantage of the Congress.

Minority Appeasement

The argument is that the Muslims and Harijans, who have been alienated from the Congress in the recent past, will be forced back to the Congress as the tone of the BJP and RSS campaign against the minority appeasement policy becomes more strident. Electorally, this will work to the advantage of the Congress. There is an incidental benefit that the BJP may get back its pro-Hindu image, but that is not a major consideration.

The aversion of the RSS-BJP ideologues to the socialists is well-known and in that respect the policies of Mr Rajiv Gandhi find favour with this group. In contrast, the

people who will emerge stronger in case the proposed centrist alliance comes out a winner, are avowed socialists, whose hatred for this group of RSS theorists is also equally well-known.

There are several other significant aspects of the change in the strategy, not the least being the discomfiture of liberal-minded leaders like Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee. For them the public position of the party becomes quite difficult to accept, and it is understood that they had even sought a way out of politics. On the occasion of his 61st birthday celebrations, Mr Vajpayee had sought an honourable exit from the political scene on the lines of Mr Nanaji Deshmukh's constructive work approach. But this did not work out, it is learnt.

However, the second line of leadership in the BJP that is coming up in the form of men like Mr Pramod Mahajan is totally reconciled to this approach of the BJP-RSS ideologues.

They do not mind if the BJP is marginalised in the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections, provided it is able to ensure the elimination of the forces that have so far delayed the polarisation of Indian politics. They are also not very eager to enjoy the fruits of power or position, and will not mind the waiting period, howsoever long it may be.

With this shift in strategy, it is little wonder that the BJP remains cool to the formation of the SJD or the National Front.

India's First Geothermal Plant Successfully Test Run

46001033 New Delhi PATRIOT in English
27 Aug 88 p 5

[Text] Bangalore, Aug 26 (UNI)—The country's first geothermal power plant has recently been successfully test-run under simulated conditions at the National Aeronautical Laboratory (NAL) here.

The five kw pilot power plant has been completely designed and fabricated by NAL under a collaborative project with the Geological Survey of India (GSI) and the Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board.

The department of non-conventional energy sources has sponsored at Manikaran in the Kulu district of Himachal Pradesh, where it will be employed to generate electric power from hot water at about 90 degree celsius issuing from borewells drilled in water-dominated "geothermal field."

For the test runs here, an oil-fired thermic fluid heater was employed to heat water to simulate the temperature and flow rate of the geothermal water available at Manikaran.

NAL scientists say that geothermal energy is the natural heat of the earth.

Naturally occurring circulatory currents in the mantle of the earth along with the hydrothermal circulatory currents within the crust are the mechanisms whereby geothermal energy from the depths is transported to the surface where it can be easily tapped.

The GSI has identified more than 300 locations all over the country for geothermal energy utilisation.

Among them, Puga in Ladakh, Manikaran in Himachal Pradesh, Tapoban in Uttar Pradesh and Tattapani in Madhya Pradesh are considered to have good potential for binary cycle geothermal power generation.

The same technology could also be used for power generation from relatively low temperature energy sources such as solar energy and industrial waste heat, the scientists say.

Interview With Lok Dal President Bahuguna

46001041 Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English
4 Sep 88 p 8

[Interview with H. N. Bahuguna, Lok Dal president, by Sankarshan Thakur; date and place not given]

[Text] Question: You had said sometime back that you have tolerated a lot of things in the Lok Dal and that you were being forced to speak. Yet you did not really say what it was that you had tolerated. Could we go into the background to this?

Answer: You see, in each party each functionary has a role to play. All along the line, since I joined the Lok Dal in October 1984, I have played it very cool. I had decided not to throw my weight around. After Chaudhary Charan Singh's sickness, as sole vice-president of the party it was my lot to steer it out of some very difficult situations. Tension over the leadership question began to crop up. But I was as convinced then, as I am now, that any split in the Opposition would do irreparable damage to an alternative to the existing political setup. I decided to go along with the established leaders—I mean leaders who were in control of the state units of the party in the lifetime of Chaudhary Saheb himself. I also decided that I will not ask for any position for my friends or colleagues or associates who had been with me for a long long time, because I thought if I did this, others will get restive and I would lose my moral authority to take the party ahead to face challenges.

Some of these leaders thought that this attitude of mine was not out of any conviction but a result of weakness. Many of you also wrote that I am a foreign element in this party. That my caste will come in my way, that I was an unwanted guest. Some of you said I am a guest artist in this party and things like that. These friends also perhaps accepted this interpretation about my attitude

towards the party. It resulted in a split in the party in Uttar Pradesh. It resulted in the exit of a number of people in Haryana. These were upright people and they had a personality clash with Devi Lalji. I pleaded with them a great deal and told them that Chaudhary Devi Lal had become the centre of politics in Haryana, so you should not spoil the game and carry on with him. But Chaudhary Devi Lal, to the point of dictation, had most of these people ousted, much against my counsel. He threatened us once on a long distance call from Bombay that unless Haryana leaders like Mr Dahiya and others were expelled, he was going to form a new party. I accepted that position not because I agreed with him but because we wanted to go along with him in view of the fact that the Haryana elections were on the cards. If I had done anything in that situation the beans would have been spilled much before they could be packed.

Question: Do you think in retrospect that the split with Ajit Singh was also a mistake?

Answer: I am not saying that...but it was unnecessary. And I do admit that it was necessitated because of intolerance on the one side and fear on the other side that after the Haryana elections were over, Devi Lal would ride roughshod over everybody.

Question: Who had such fears?

Answer: That was the argument of Mr Ajit Singh. Now I know it at my own cost that he was not very wrong. Expulsions became infectious in the Lok Dal at one point of time. You remember, we began with some expulsions in Uttar Pradesh. Then came the expulsions in Haryana, then Ram Bilas (Paswan) and a few others were expelled. It was an infection, it went round and round (laughs) and I could do nothing about it.

Question: Why was that? Was it not a sign of weakness?

Answer: I had very difficult choices. I had either to quarrel with the established leadership in the name of rules and other things, or else, wait for good sense to prevail in the party. And I chose the second option.

Question: To go back just a little, some also think that a split in the Lok Dal was in your interest, that it was a succession battle between you and Ajit Singh...

Answer: If you ask Ajit Singh today...Ajit Singh was equally willing to make me the president. I must say in all fairness to him, he never was against my presidency. His problem lay in the states, his problem was not here in the Centre. And he is still there, you can ask him. His problem certainly was that I was not standing up effectively against the state leaders, who also constituted the all India leadership of this party. My own assessment is that if that split had not come about, the situation for the Lok Dal would have been much better. Even Devi

Lalji would have been much more sober. (Smiles) You know, the Haryana victory made him almost drunk. If everybody was together he would have been sober.

Question: What did you do to prevent the split? Did you play a role at all?

Answer: I myself tried to resurrect the party after the Haryana elections. Chaudhary Devi Lal put his foot down. He said no, he (Ajit Singh) is a Congress agent. The point is that if Chaudhary Devi Lal gets into a mood, then you cannot do a thing about it. My own point was that since after the Haryana victory Chaudhary Devi Lal's image had been established, he need not have quarrelled with anyone.

Question: For how many years have you known Chaudhary Devi Lal?

Answer: Well, we have never been personal friends, but I have seen his ups and down since 1956. He was very much in the Congress then and he went out quarrelling with someone or the other. He was with Pratap Singh Kairon but he fought with him. Kairon had made him (Punjab) party president but it is said that he had to resign because Pantji (G.B. Pant) had some file on him and he said this man has to go, nothing doing. In 1968 when I was in charge of the Haryana elections, I denied Devi Lal the party ticket. I refused to give him a ticket.

Question: Why was that?

Answer: I'll tell you. He was not the only one. I refused the ticket to three people: Chand Ram, Bhagwat Dayal and Devi Lal. I had taken a position that anyone who had to do anything with defection and anyone who was a caste leader had to be kept out. Unfortunately, the test applied to Devi Lal on both counts. He was out on both grounds along with Chand Ram. But I never did it out of any personal vendetta.

Question: Was it interpreted as such?

Answer: I cannot really say but the way he is speaking against me, there seems to be some animus (against me). There is no need for him to say the so many things that he is saying. So maybe he is nursing something in his heart. But I can assure you that I did it out of my duty, it was a task allotted to me. I must admit here that after the Haryana elections, Devi Lal had become very, very tall. He had suddenly grown in stature, reached a place too high for anyone to reach. That is why I would call him sarvochcha neta (supreme leader). I publicly made this statement; I said this at the Boat Club rally. After that I decided I was not going to interfere in his affairs in Haryana because I knew that anyone who comes in his way is going to be upset.

Question: Did you have any reservations about this partnership with the BJP?

Answer: I am not a fool to start expressing reservations when a final seal has been put on a decision. There are a lot of stories on that but I shall leave that for some other day.

Question: But as a policy you thought partnership with the BJP was wrong.

Answer: I am merely trying to say this was a policy issue and should have been at least discussed. But even later I never interfered. Devi Lal cannot say a word about my interference because I never did interfere. In fact, this, in some cases, amounted to dereliction of duty on my part. I should not have done it, I should have put my foot down and said, "Why are you doing this?" I avoided doing it because I knew that he was totally intolerant to any criticism. And also because after the Haryana election, Devi Lalji had embarked upon the unity exercise.

Question: But again, did this not amount to weakness on your part?

Answer: But what was my motivation? Was I asking him for favours? So, I have written to him letters on policy matters which I will not show you today. I wrote them but I never took matters to a flashpoint as they say. I avoided that flashpoint as long as I could. Currently he is making all types of allegations against me. He says that Bahuguna is thriving under a constitution made by him for the Lok Dal which puts city dwellers in an advantageous position as against the rural people. He forgets that I come from a worse rural area than him. He forgets that I am the son of a farmer, that my mother and sisters have worked on the farm and I have worked on the farm as he has never done.

Question: The other allegation he makes is that you have packed important posts with your men...

Answer: Will Mr Devi Lal point out who are the people appointed by me? Will he point out those who have not been handed on to me by Chaudhary Charan Singh or who have not been appointed by the joint recommendation of Devi Lal, Mulayam Singh and the late Jan Nayak Kapoori Thakur collectively? Devi Lal is most angry with Mr B.P. Maurya. Mr Maurya was inducted into the Lok Dal much before me. He was made general secretary much before I became vice president of the party. The only people who have been added by me are two organising secretaries, Z.A. Faizan and Chaudhary Rambir Singh. All the rest are recommendations of these people (Devi Lal and other state leaders). Youth front nominations have all been approved by Sharad Yadav or were already there in Chaudhary Charan Singh's time. Similarly, take the working committee. He says there is just one man from Haryana. Does he not see his son Om Prakash in the working committee? Does he not see Het Ram, does he not see Khursheed Ahmed, does he not see his own son-in-law, Lather who is a Rajya Sabha member? If Devi Lal says there is only one member from

Haryana, I will strike off all these names. His thesis is that there should be a party only where there are MLAs. Does the party come first or MLAs? MLAs will come only if there is a party.

Question: Could we come to the current unity talks?

Answer: There again wrong impressions have been spread. We had a working committee meeting in July 1987 where we decided that I will negotiate unity on the party level and Devi Lalji will do it on the chief minister's level. I had told Devi Lal then also that we shouldn't quarrel on names. If Devi Lal had not quarrelled on the name we would have had the Lok Dal-Janata unity long before. But before that let me mention that Devi Lal took upon himself the task of negotiating on both levels without consulting me. I said, let him go ahead. But if Devi Lal was the most rabid man for unity, then he should have given up all these conditions on name and position etcetera. But no, he is to answer how the Janata-Lok Dal talks broke up. I will not say more on this. Let him answer.

After that, he started on another trial, a bigger unity. I did not object but I called a meeting of the working committee on 16 and 17 July this year. Someone told him that in this meeting I was going to take all the powers for myself so he started this campaign to cancel the meeting. But I said no, I will not cancel it. This is the first time I put my foot down. I asked him why he wanted to make the whole organisation a plaything of his. He must report to the working committee to go ahead with the matter. I was going to give him all the powers. So on July 8 he came to my house along with Mulayam Singh Yadav and Nathu Ram Mirdha. He was afraid that I would take all the powers and I asked him what had led him to believe that. I said I was trying to regularise his illegal functioning by giving him all the powers and finish with it. Because he was not going to listen to anybody, because he was a solo player, I wanted him to play solo. I was to formalise that solo play. I reminded him of the note he had circulated calling me a rootless and stateless manipulator and said that since he had no trust (in me) and since there is no love lost between us, he should write me a letter saying "Bahuguna-ji, you must resign from presidentship, we require a fresh person for this job."

I said he had taken the lead in attacking me and I had suffered in silence. If he gave me such a letter I would have resigned there and then. But he said, "Nahin aap sayane aadmi hain, sab log jhooth bolte hain, chalo jo ho gaya so ho gaya". He was repentant, he was chastened. I thought it was all over. But again there was this question of the working committee members. I repeat there are six members from Haryana and he says there is only one. How come he makes this blatantly false statement? I am sorry, if it is his forgetfulness, god help us and if it is his purposeful forgetfulness our party is doomed. With such leaders our future is doomed. He says there is only one member from Rajasthan but there are two people from Rajasthan—Sumitra and Nathu Ram Mirdha. He says

Bihar has one member. The late Kapoori Thakur had given the names of eight people in his own handwriting. Why is he lying? Anyway, on the morning of July 25, I was sitting here chatting to Harkishen Singh Surjeet, the CPI(M) politburo member, when Devi Lal came here. He had landed from Chandigarh at the Safdarjung airport and drove straight here. It was in the presence of Surjeet that he told me he was going to form a party and I told him not to break the chances by insisting on names or personnel. Surjeet is my witness. Stick to policies, sure because policies mean something. But for Devi Lal policies have no meaning, he has said in the Focus programme on television also and everybody has seen it. Anyhow, he went and formed the Samajbadi Janata Dal (SJD). He did not inform me of it, but I said fine.

Question: Where did the dispute arise then?

Answer: I am coming to that. After announcing the SJD, Devi Lal began sending his emissaries to me—Mulayam Singh, Mirdha and his son, Om Prakash. They said that Devi Lal had formed the party and asked me to take over. Devi Lal wanted me to frame the constitution, the policies and programmes, and the organisational structure at all levels. I said I will not be involved at this stage because if anything happens he will get credit for making it and I will be blamed for spoiling it. I don't have that much elan, I am not that tall. But then Devi Lal issued a statement and sent me a note saying I had to do the job. Suddenly on the evening of August 3, as I go about talking to various opposition leaders and drafting the constitution paper, while I am doing the donkey's job, I get a call from a friend in the press that Mr Devi Lal has announced the names. He asked "Did he not meet you?" I said no. He asked for my reaction and I said, "This is news to me."

Devi Lal takes objection to this, but did he himself ring me up and tell me before he made this announcement? No names were discussed at any point of time with me. And then he says I am trying to sabotage opposition unity. What am I trying to sabotage? He also made a series of ugly statements against me including the allegation that I am a Congress agent. I wanted a working committee meeting called and this had his approval too. His only condition was that we should keep it after a similar meeting of the Janata Party. So, finally I fixed the meeting for August 20. Then he wanted all legislators called to that meeting. I asked him what for and he said that he wanted a national convention to be held. But the presence of legislators does not make any meeting a national convention. A convention is a much wider body. I said I had no objection in calling a convention because there was enough time but he said, "No, no, you want to create trouble for me." You see, his problem is that for him argument and disagreement mean disloyalty. But I said that it was too much for me to accept. I did not tolerate Indira Gandhi's bossing and Mr Devi Lal should not have expected such things from me. I refused. Two hours later he again rang me and asked whether I was going to call the MLAs. I said no. Then he

said that he was going to call them and thereafter, he began speaking in the choicest language. In the end he said "Tumhe dhool chata doonga (I will make you bite dust)." Then I put down the phone. It is his business to use the language that suits his culture. Mulayam Singh was also sitting here, just as we are now. He is my witness.

Question: But what is your stand on the SJD?

Answer: I have no quarrel with it. But it is a stillborn child. What am I to do about it? Much as I would have liked to see it alive and kicking, I see that it is a stillborn child. They say I am a stumbling block. Well, why don't you ask the Jan Morcha people what they think about the SJD? Why don't you ask the Janata Party? After all they are also supposed to be members of it. The Jan Morcha says it is going to maintain its separate identity, a senior Janata leaders says the SJD is just a proposal, so why blame me?

Question: There are reports that you are negotiating a merger with the Janata Party. Would you comment on this?

Answer: We have been wanting unity with the Janata right from the beginning. It has been one of our most cherished ambitions, even Devi Lalji wanted it, but there is nothing concrete at the moment.

Question: But some of your own general secretaries have floated a merger proposal...

Answer: Yes, unfortunately there is a free for all atmosphere in my party today.

Question: There is a feeling that you have reservations about working under V.P. Singh's leadership...

Answer: I would not like to comment on that now, that is not the issue. But it is true that I feel such decisions should not be taken behind the curtain...Everybody's track record is for you to see. I am not currently discussing Vishwanath Pratap but I can tell you that my wife brought him into the Congress in 1967. Time was when we were close. I was instrumental in getting him inducted in the Lok Sabha but we lost touch after he came to Parliament.

Darshan Singh Ragi New Jathedars of Akal Takht
46001038 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English
1 Sep 88 p 1

[Excerpt] Amritsar, August 31 (UNI)—Mr Darshan Singh Ragi was today installed jathedars of the Akal Takht in the Golden Temple complex here in accordance with Sikh traditions.

Mr Ragi reached here around 2.30 p.m. escorted by 52 cars and eight trucks from Alamgir gurdwara at Ludhiana and entered the temple complex from the Guru Ram Das Sarai gate.

The Akal Takht acting jathedar, Bhai Mohan Singh, presented "saropa" (robes of honour) and swords to Mr Ragi before handing over charge of the Akal Takht. Representatives of many religious organisations also presented "saropas" to him.

Addressing a 3000-strong congregation in front of the Akal Takht after the installation ceremony, Mr Ragi called upon all Sikh political, religious and militant factions to unite under a common banner to fight the "atrocities of the anti-Sikh elements."

"It is not only the Akali Dal that is divided. The SGPC, the Damdami Taksal, the AISSF and the various militant organisations are also fighting among themselves," he said.

He said that Sikhs had completely divorced themselves from Guru Hargobind Sahib's concept of "miri and piri" (combining the temporal and spiritual). While the militants understood only the language of the gun, there were others who were ever ready to "bow before the government," he added.

Mr Ragi said no problem would be solved by violence. The militants should remember that every problem could be solved "across the table."

"The need of the hour is to combine the raj niti with the ran (war) niti," he added.

Among the prominent Akali leaders present at the installation ceremony were the Unified Akali Dal president, Mr Jagdev Singh Talwandi, the SGPC acting president, Mr Harinder Singh Tarn Tarani, the SGPC secretary, Mr Manjit Singh Calcutta, the SGPC executive member, Mr Ujjagar Singh Rengratta, and a few Akali MPs and former legislators.

Smuggling Necessitates Change in Gold Import Policy

46001034 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English
28 Aug 88 p 1

[Excerpt] Bombay, August 27—Gold imports will now be freely allowed for export of gold jewellery.

Speaking at the Indian Merchants' Chamber (IMC) here today, Mr Dinesh Singh, Union minister for commerce, said that the government also proposed to give goldsmiths a variety of facilities for conversion of primary gold into jewellery.

Mr Singh said that large-scale smuggling of gold had completely distorted the national economy, necessitating a fresh look at the gold policy.

Dr Ram Tarneja, IMC president, urged drastic reconsideration of the Gold (Control) Act which had failed to curb gold smuggling, and was costing the country an estimated Rs 1,000 crores in foreign exchange every year.

In addition to a liberal import policy for gold, Dr Tarneja emphasised the need for increasing export efforts in general in order to correct the alarming balance of payments deficit and suggested enlarging the export thrust-sectors' list to include automobiles, auto parts and pharmaceuticals.

The minister expressed the government's willingness to allow greater participation of the industry and trade in formulating policy, and hoped that the IMC and other associated chambers would participate in the implementation of such policy. Industry and trade must interact responsibly with the government to remove hindrances, instead of cribbing or bargaining for incentives, he said.

IRAN

Barzani on Kurdish Calamity, Request for Asylum

46400011a Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 5 Sep 88 p 2

[Interview with Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Kurdish Democratic Party of Iraq by KEYHAN in Urmia; date not specified]

[Text] Urmia. KEYHAN correspondent: Mas'ud Barzani, the leader of the Kurdish Democratic Party of Iraq [KDP], denied the media rumors of a request for asylum in Turkey for himself and the members of his party. He emphasized that, despite the extensive 48-day attacks by 3 armies and 200 bombers and the use of chemical weapons by the regime of Iraq, the people of Kurdistan will continue their struggle.

The leader of the KDP, who participated in an exclusive interview with our correspondent in Urmia, said: On 25 August, deploying the 7th army and the presidential guard, and with more than 200 airplanes, the regime of Iraq, thrice dropped chemical bombs on about 60 Kurdish villages in Iraq and also attacked them with artillery fire. He added that the people of Kurdistan in Iraq are now in the 48th day of the new round of confrontation with the Iraqi regime, and so far, the 1st and 5th armies of Iraq have suffered severe casualties, for which the regime has attacked the defenseless women and children in the region.

The leader of the KDP, refuting the claims of the Baghdad regime concerning the limiting of the clashes between the government forces and the opposition groups, pointed out that international agencies, human rights groups and the International Red Cross have verified their statements through visits to the people who have taken refuge in Turkey and Iran.

He emphasized that if the representatives of international agencies visit the region, they will be shown where and when the Iraqi airplanes and forces attacked several times with chemical weapons.

Military Siege of the Kurdish People in Northern Iraq

Concerning the fate of the Kurdish people of Iraq who have remained in the region, Mas'ud Barzani said: We have no information about their fate. At present, thousands of families are under siege by government forces. We ask the people of the world to rush to the aid of the Kurdish people.

Pointing out the 10-day escalation of chemical bombings in the Dahuk and Musal regions, he said that never before in history has a regime targeted its own people with chemical weapons.

Repeating his request for assistance by international agencies and the alert consciences of the world, Mas'ud Barzani said: It is unfortunate that international agencies who claim to defend human rights do not come to our aid. We have even lost the right to breathe, and Saddam becomes even more impudent with their silence.

He added: If the human rights agencies and the United Nations do not consider the Kurdish people of Iraq human, let them come to the region and defend the birds and animals who have perished as a result of the chemical bombs.

He then expressed his appreciation to Iran and Turkey for giving refuge to thousands of defenseless Iraqi Kurds.

Rumor of Request for Asylum for the KDP Rejected

In this interview, the leader of the KDP rejected the rumors of the foreign media that he and the members of his party intend to request asylum in Turkey and said:

We believe and have enough faith in our struggle that we will not ask any government for asylum. We prefer death in the course of our struggle to comfort and requesting asylum.

He added: We seek a peace that secures the interests and rights of the people not a peace that encourages the criminal and all his crimes.

Mas'ud Barzani then added: Besides his having built up more than \$100 billion in debts, his destruction of the national economy, and his keeping people in military service for 10 years, Saddam is also faced with serious conflicts with governments which are not prepared to give him economic aid after the war.

In this interview, concerning the Iran-Iraq war and Resolution 598, he said:

We were not optimistic from the beginning of this destructive war, and Iraq, after eight years of war, bloodshed and economic bankruptcy, claims to be seeking peace.

He added: Since Iran accepted the resolution, the regime of Iraq has become confused and creates obstacles in the way of a lasting peace.

Two Cities, Several Heights Reportedly Still in Iraqi Hands

46400006c London KEYHAN in Persian 15 Sep 88 p 2

[Interview with Mohsen Pezeshkpur, leader of the Pan-Iranist Party, by KEYHAN in Paris, date not specified]

[Text] Mohsen Pezeshkpur, the leader of the Pan-Iranist Party, who lives in exile in Paris, warned that at the present time, two cities and several strategically important areas of Iran, which have not been mentioned at all at the Geneva negotiations, are in the hands of the Iraqis, and presently all discussions and disputes have stopped over the Tigris and Euphrates.

In an interview with the representative of KEYHAN in Paris, Pezeshkpur announced: "We have gathered the documents and records of Iranian ownership of these important areas which are in Iraqi hands and have sent them to the Islamic Republic's delegation at the Geneva peace talks. We have also sent a copy to the Embassy of the Islamic Republic in Paris."

He said: "In addition to Naft Shahr, where large oil reserves are located and before excavation oil spewed out of its soil, and which is very important in economic and petroleum terms, the town of Khosravi on the Iran-Iraq border is also still in the hands of the Iraqis. Besides these two cities, the very important Tang-e Chazzabeh, Zinal Kosh and Chanchacham heights, which are in the Kermanshah and Ilam region and which are located next to each other, are also in the possession of the Iraqis.

The "Tang-e Chazzabeh" heights is very important both for the Iraqis and the Iranians, because all the waters that flow into the Tigris and keep this river alive stem from those heights. Fearing that some day Iran will stop the flow of these waters to the Tigris by building a dam or canals, they are attempting to claim these heights as a part of their own soil or possessions. The Zinal Kosh and Chanchacham heights that are next to Tang-e Chazzabeh are important strategically, as well as in terms of irrigation.

In regard to the history of these areas and also the claim of Iraq, Pezeshkpur says:

"At the present time, in order to hold Naft Shahr, Khosravi and the Tang-e Chazzabeh and other heights, the Iraqis refer to the 1936 agreement. The history of this affair stems from the aggression of the British forces on

3 Shahrivar [25 August] on Iranian soil, including Naft Shahr, at the time, as well as the occupation of Khosravi and Tang-e Chazzabeh heights. But following the retreat of the British forces and the signing of the 1936 agreement, according to which Iraq was placed under the domination of England, those areas were returned to Iran and were not included in this agreement."

He added: If Resolution 598 of the Security Council is implemented properly, according to Paragraph 1 of this resolution, the forces of the two countries must retreat to the international borders and Iraq will be forced to retreat from Naft Shahr, Khosravi and the Tang-e Chazzabeh, Zinal Kosh and Chanchacham heights. But, as we have witnessed in recent weeks, the Iraqis are trying to concentrate all the issues on the sovereignty of that country over the Tigris and Euphrates—over which they also have no right, because the Algerian agreement has clarified everything—so that they might be able to obtain geographical and probably political concessions from the Islamic Republic.

Pezeshkpur said: "In the meantime, Islamic Republic opposition groups abroad, by publishing announcements, have provided Iraq with an excuse for holding on to the Iranian areas and cities. In the course of the past few years, these groups, including the young shah and Bakhtiar, Amini, the Mojahedin and others, have frequently reminded the Islamic Republic that there is no reason why it should not accept the peace proposal now that the Iraqis have left Iranian soil. These communiques and announcements were published before Iraq had left Iranian soil, and yet, despite the acceptance of Resolution 598 by the Islamic Republic, it still holds parts of Iranian soil."

Musavi Inspects Defense Industries Organization Complex

46000019 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 28 Sep 88 p 2

[Text] Tehran - Islamic Republic News Agency [IRNA]—On the sixth day of Sacred Defense Week, the prime minister, Mr Musavi, inaugurated factories involved in the production of rocket propellant, loading of TNT, and a large number of 107 millimeter shells in a complex of the Defense Industries Organization.

Yesterday, during his visit to this complex, the prime minister inspected the Defense Industries Organizations latest advances in the fields of munitions and rocket manufacturing, particularly the production of numerous Nazat [as printed] line of rockets which performed an important role last year in answering the enemy's attacks on our country's residential areas.

At the conclusion of this inspection, the prime minister calling the advancements made in this complex 'eye catching,' applauded the initiative and innovation of the specialists of the Defense Industry and the 1000-percent growth in the products of this organization during the last two and a half years.

The prime minister said that the enormous production indicators of the military industry spoke for the depth and capacity of the inventions and administrative experiences and more importantly the confidence, essence, and feeling of revolutionary power existing in this organization. "These models and samples show the policy and course of action that the government must follow in the future," he said.

He added: In spite of intense pressures during the period of war, we have obtained this great leap in production, and after the war it is our duty to extend this leap in all spheres. It is important that we have faith in the power of our inventions and initiatives because only in this way can we take fundamental steps for the country's development.

During his inspection of the Defense Industries Organization complex yesterday, the prime minister also met and spoke with a group of honorable family members of martyrs belonging to the Defense Industries Organization.

IRI Announces Official Death Figures

46400006a London KEYHAN in Persian 22 Sep 88 p 1

[Text] The Islamic Republic announced the official figures of military personnel killed or missing in the course of its eight-year war with Iraq. According to the official announcement of the government of the Islamic Republic, 123,220 officers and other military personnel have been killed and 60,000 persons are missing or are in captivity.

The Ministry of the Revolutionary Guard has not yet announced the number of personnel of the Guards Corps and the mobilization youth who have been killed or captured. It should be pointed out that the number of Guards Corps and mobilization personnel killed is several times that of the military and might even reach 500,000.

Conscripts Failing To Show Up Face Execution

46400006b London KEYHAN in Persian
22 Sep 88 pp 1, 4

[Text] Tehran. Military conscripts residing abroad have until 18 Dey of the current year [8 January 1989] to appear at the military service office.

The division for procuring manpower of the command headquarters of the joint forces in Tehran pointed out in an announcement issued to alert conscripts abroad:

The service period of those who appear after 18 Dey [8 January] will be extended by one year. Furthermore, twice the period of their delay, beyond the date mentioned above will also be added to their service.

In addition to the punishments decided, draft evaders who show up after the deadline will be sentenced to six months for their first evasion, one and a half years for their second evasion, and two years additional service and loss of social rights for the third evasion. If such conscripts escape for a fourth time, during the war, they will face execution.

Persons who do not show up on time after receiving service papers will also be considered evaders.

On the whole, the ceiling for additional service of evaders will not exceed five years.

Those who illegally have themselves or others exempted from military service or who delay the date of the service of conscripts, as well as those who employ conscripts and

individuals who cause problems for recruiting teams, will be fined 100,00 to 1 million tumans in addition to the usual punishment. Such persons will also receive lashes. If they are businessmen, their businesses will be closed for six months.

The military service office is responsible for summoning all conscripts throughout the country, and all organizations and the Guards Corps as well must recruit conscripts through the office of military service.

The supreme committee for conscript affairs is made up of the director of the military service office, the director of the judicial agency of the armed forces, and the related officials in the military and the Guard Corps.